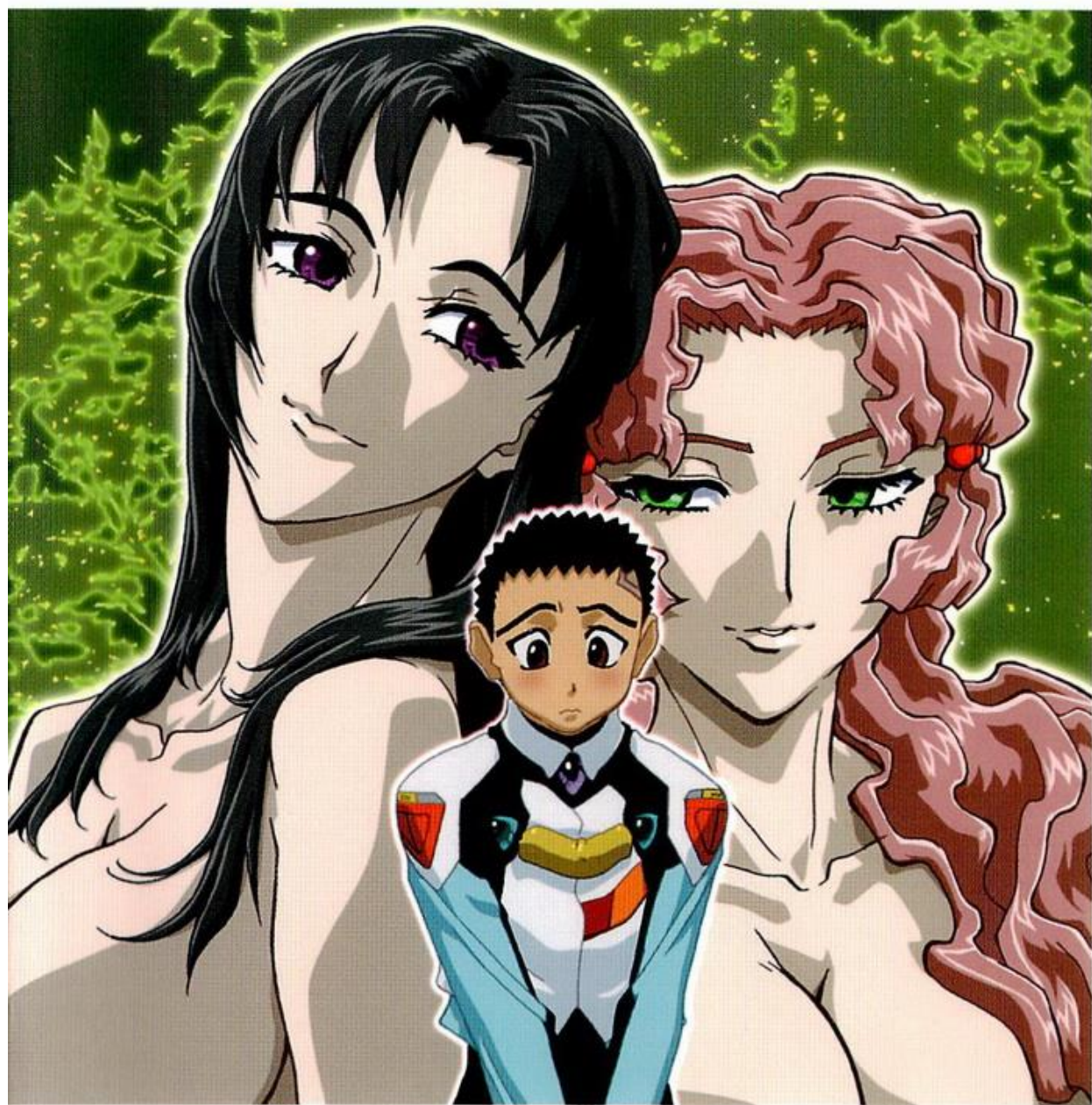


真・天地無用！ 魍皇鬼外伝

天地無用！ GXP 7

梶島正樹



ファンタジア文庫

イラスト 梶島正樹

Washu slumped.
Her entire body
was covered in sweat,
and her eyes were vacant...
She was exhausted,
just like a pregnant
woman who had
just finished
giving birth.

“Meow?”

“I’m fine.”

Washu smiled as
Ryo-Ohki peered into
her face with worry,
and then she
slowly got up.



SHIN TENCHI MUYO! RYO-OHKI GAIDEN

真・天地無用/魍皇鬼外伝

天地無用!GXP7

TENCHI MUYO! GXP 7

“Danger!”

Hakuren and the others turned into a wall of flesh, killing Seina's momentum. In the end, it was Ringo who caught Seina before he crashed into the rocks.



Kiriko had reflexively thrown Seina with all of her strength.





**"You've grown!
You've grown
so much..."**

**"Your
height!"**

**"Your
breasts!"**

**Your
buttocks!"**

**"Ohh!
My precious
great-grandchild."**

*As if overwhelmed
with emotion,
King Balta spread
out his arms and
ran towards Ryoko
in order to hug her.
Tears ran down
his face as he
rubbed his cheek
against hers.*

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Chapter One: My First Time Out

"... .. End of final check..... No problem."

In the space station part of Washu's Lab (it's 3 planets and a space station) a tired Washu was performing the final tests on the ship she had made for Seina. Ryo-Ohki was with her, watching.

There was a disk shaped sofa-like terminal in the center used for controlling things in the room, Washu lay there naked.



Her whole body was sweaty and her eyes were empty. She was as exhausted as a pregnant woman who had just given birth.

"Miyah?"

"I'm fine I'm just tired... wake me up in a bit ..."

"Miyah myah?"

"When she wakes up it will be to her future husband.... she's going to Seina Yamada."

"Miya :)"

Washu had used Widow's Astral as the core for her good compatibility with Seina, but hadn't kept her memories so she could develop a new personality that was less psychotic. But it was all up to how Seina treated the ships computer core.

Ryo do you think he will treat her right?"

"MIAH :3!"

Washu was convinced by Ryo-Ohki's reaction.

× × ×

The next day:

"Is it ok to let her go on her own?" Ayeka asked Washu as Ryo-Ohki blasted off into space to deliver her sister to Jurai.

"Noike will be with her, she'll be fine."

"Are you sure... she gets lost just wondering around out here..."

“She'll be fine... if she gets lost Ryoko can help her.”

“Even so, she is going back to Jurai.” Ayeka said with a worried expression.

“You can worry when something goes wrong. Seto and Azusa have this all planned out. I'm sure it will be fine.”

It was just as Washu said... it was all planned by Jurai so things went fine... but when Misaki saw little Ryo-Ohki

“Ryo-chan! You're so cuuuuute!”

Misaki's fondness for Ryo-Ohki resulted in a riot and a panic that resulted in disaster for Seina.

Chapter 2 - Run away! Run away!

"We've entered hyperspace," Alan announced.

But the Kamidake shook violently and fell out of hyperspace.

"What's going on?!"

"We're experiencing intense hyper spatial friction. The hull is being severely damaged! We have to drop out of hyperspace!"

x x x

"Alright! Let the hunt begin." Gazura gazed at the monitor, staring at the space where Kamidake had disappeared.

"Sir, it worked. They have dropped out of hyperspace ... but sir ... they still managed to get pretty far from us. I've never seen a ship jump that far so quickly."

"Send the hounds to take them down immediately!"

x x x

Three ships went after the Kamidake on Gazura's radar. But they were soon snuffed out of existence.

"All three have been shot down!"

"Chhh ... This might be harder than I thought."

Gazura got a call from one of Tarrant's men who he didn't recognize because Tarrant had been switching out staff constantly ever since Gazura had been re-assigned from Radi Shanks command.

"Deputy Chief of Staff ... do you have anything useful to tell me?" He said, referring to the man by rank instead of name.

"Tarrant wants the package and the people aboard that ship captured alive. That's an order!"

"I'll let everyone know right away! We hit them with the AHP guns. It's only a matter of time before we get them."

"Don't keep Tarrant waiting." The young Deputy Chief of Staff who hadn't even been born when Gazura first became captain of a ship said arrogantly.

x x x

Several hours later Mikagami was orbiting Jurai. No one but Seto was on the bridge and she seemed restless.

Minaho transferred in.

“Seto, the Academy just got its first report in from the Kamidake.”

A monitor was displayed in front of Seto.

“.....I see.”

It had the results of record searches carried out shortly before the ship went missing.

“Considering the time lag from when it disappeared until the searches stop... ..”

“It's unlikely that Kamidake was sunk, some kind of new weapon was probably used to obstruct communication and navigation.”

“I'll look and see if there have been any similar situations as soon as the survey ship arrives at the scene. We'll do a precision scan, and perhaps we can understand something about the enemies' weapons. I wonder if having Seina do this was a mistake.....”

“Right now I'm counting on his bad luck, the most important issue this time is Kiriko.” Her accessing the database of the shipping company tipped off the pirates to her location.

“I'm sorry...” Minaho was in charge of training officers for Seto and she had neglected to teach Kiriko not to do that.

“Maybe I should have you give Seina some lessons too,” Seto said winking. “Minaho, please tell everyone to proceed according to plan and send the 7th fleet to back up the 4th... actually... It's been a while since they last saw any action so send the 1st fleet as well.”

“On it!” Minaho transferred out off the bridge

× × ×

The Kamidake was still able to manage short jumps and after several of them they reached an uninhabited earth type planet without intelligent life. They had the Kamidake go into the depths of the planet's sea and powered down systems to the bare minimum output.

“Damage report!” Seina asked on the darkened bridge.

“Wait a second, look at this!” Kiriko said as she was editing captured video of the fight for her report. She sent the footage to Seina. The Kamidake was covered in some weird red paint.

“Pirates are into graffiti now?” Amane asked.

“No, that must be what's keeping us from jumping into hyperspace.”

“How about we put a shield over the hull of the ship when we jump? It might take a lot of energy but I think the Kamidake can manage to pull it off.” Hakuren asked.

“There was a reaction to the shields when we were hit earlier... I don't think it's safe to do that.”

On the outside of the bridge a group of organisms swam around the ship and lit up, they looked like stars. Amane sighed and leaned her chair far back to watch them.



"I think it's also blocking external communications." Kiriko said looking at NB, who confirmed it.

They could send out an escape pod and have it send out a distress call but it would be on an open channel and the pirates would have found them if they did that. Their only hope was to find a space station to send a message from.

"We need to find a space station... Kiriko can this ship do an H559 class jump?"

It was an older method for jumping that took a long time but produced less friction than the other kinds.

"I think so..."

"Alright then, let's do that!" Seina commanded. "But first let's get some rest in the acceleration space." The crew went to rest as the ship started emerging from the

deep sea.

Alan dragged Barry and Cohen to their room where he used his ID card to transfer a huge amount of food and sweets to their room.

"Why are we here? We should be getting some rest?"

"As operators it's our responsibility to keep ourselves at the highest possible level of alertness before battle! To do that we must eat like there's no tomorrow! We can always just set the acceleration space to the highest setting when we're done." Alan poured them all drinks.

"Well I guess you're right..."

"Cheers!"

They drank up and began eating like competitive eaters.

While they did that the Kamidake took itself out of the sea, shot down a pirate that approached it, and did a hyperspace jump.

Chapter Three: Pandora

"Jump successful!"

"Accelerate at maximum speed."

x x x

A few hours later:

"Captain we have arrived at Pandora."

They began to dock. The space traffic controller contacted them to assist with docking.

"This is urgent, we need you to relay a message to Jurai for us. All our communication systems are blocked." Kiriko said.

"Sorry ma'am, our relays been out of commission for over a century." The traffic controller said with a wry smile.

"I know it's embarrassing, but this is a space station in frontier space after all... we don't have the money."

Kiriko thought about it for a while... "Do you have any GP employee's here?"

"Yes. I'll call them for you."

A secret wall surrounded Kiriko.

"This is Fos Douquet, GP Branch Chief for Pandora. What is someone from the main office doing all the way out here?"

Kiriko quickly explained their situation to him. "So can you quickly relay this message for us?"

"I'd like to but our two ships are out fighting pirates right now. A large number of pirates were detected nearby. But I'll send the message as soon as they get back. What would you like me to tell them?"

"We need a medium sized container ship and an escort ship." Kiriko transferred the data to over to him using her ID card and cut communications.

x x x

"Welcome to Pandora! The time is 2100 hours. You may now depart!" a voice announced.

They prepared to go in when Fos came running up to them. He had realized who Seina was and advised him to stay aboard the ship. He warned them that Pandora was a trading post and was full of pirates and many other people who wouldn't hesitate to try and capture him. He got a container ship for them and they stored the Kamidake inside of it to camouflage and tow it.

× × ×

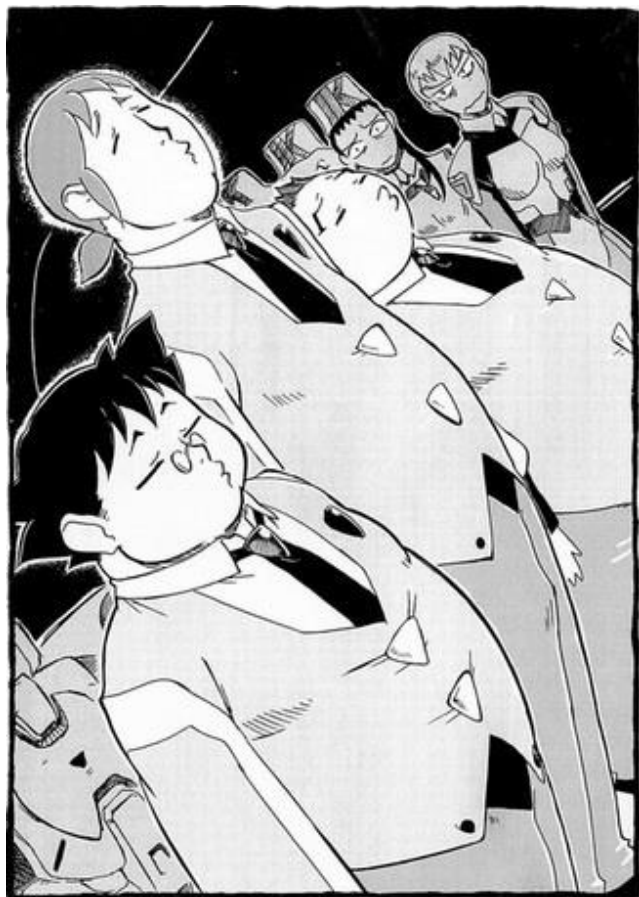
Coincidentally, Ian North was at his new office on Pandora when his new employee, the station owner's daughter, Kururuka Pandora came in and told him the bad news about the shipping company they hired for Jurai being blown up.

Ian gave her a cigar for her troubles... she had a thing for sniffing them and she proceeded to shove the whole thing up her nose.

Ringo called and let Ian know that they were looking for Seina. She then went back to Seto and begged her to not waste any more money...

× × ×

Six hours later, the transport container was taking them to Jurai when they realized they were low on food. The three idiots had grown incredibly fat from doing nothing but eating and sleeping for over a month in the acceleration space.



"We only have a day of food left. What were you thinking?!"

"We had three months of food in reserve!"

Amane and Kiriko yelled at the three idiots.

"Sorry, we were just trying to make sure we were in adequate physical condition to continue operating in case of an emergency." Alan tried to convince them but his powers of persuasion had no effect on them.

"Kiriko, what can we do about this?"

"If we ration out everything we can make it last 3 days."

"God damn it! What are you doing loafing around? Get to your stations you idiots!" Amane yelled at the three.

× × ×

Alan got mad at Seina for being scolded for eating all the food. Amane said it would be about 4 more hours till they got to their destination but they expected to encounter pirates that would delay them.

Alan came to her with an idea for getting past the pirates by using them as bait and giving them a fake box.

x x x

Ringo went to Airi and asked her if she would lend Erma to Jurai to help them find Seina.

Mikami and Airi agreed.

Ryoko was housed in the same cell that had been used to house Widow, so it was very hard for people to interact with her or find her.

Ryoko got a call in her cell from Ringo.

"As you already know, Seina and the Kamidake are missing. An acquaintance of mine found out that they were taken by a transportation ship from the space station Pandora a few hours ago."

"So you want me to help you betray my fellow pirates."

After a long speech of no real importance except to make Ryoko realize Seto wanted to advance the technology the pirates had so they could all settle down and live in peace.... she agreed to help.

Airi came in after Ringo's talk. "Erma.... let's go."

"Okay."

Chapter Four: Into a New Battlefield

The ship carrying the Kamidake arrived in front of the fleet of pirates as expected.

“Well, what do we have here? Order that ship to release its cargo immediately! Looks like we got a special bonus today! I can't believe they were stupid enough to fly directly to us!” Gazura ordered.

x x x

“The ships’ stopped.” Kiriko said.

The ship ejected its cargo container and moved out of the predicted fire range as quick as possible. The Kamidake started its engine and had the container come undone in sync with it.

x x x

“I'm reading a high level energy reaction... It's coming from the container!”

“Fire!”

The pirate ships began firing but the container acted as a shield while it disintegrated. The Kamidake began weaving through the pirates at high speeds as it fired on them.

“Ships 3 and 17 have been destroyed, at this rate we will be completely eliminated in minutes!”

“All ships take defense formation!”

“Ship 22 had been destroyed!”

“Shields to maximum!”

“They have a shield disintegrator. It's not working!”

Their ship shook and plasma blew from the walls. Gazura wasn't amused. “That was a direct hit! Our shields are down!”

“Quick, call for back up!”

“Sir, the enemy ship has done a long distance jump past us!”

“Send a ship to collect the survivors, have the rest of the fleet chase after them! Investigate that shipping vessel!”

x x x

As Gazura and his fleet jumped into hyperspace a ship stayed behind and collected the life pods that were ejected from the ships. They checked the shipping vessel but it was empty. When the container self destructed earlier it sent out a distress signal.

Erma picked it up and used it to lock onto the Kamidake's position.

“Unfortunately this is in disputed territory... I'm afraid the Juraian fleet can't afford to go in after Seina any further. It has to be a guild ship that goes in there. It's all up to you Erma.” Ringo informed her.

Erma boarded a camouflageable ship and set off to find them.

x x x

In a shadowy board room Nakita explained the ongoing situation to some shadowy figures in the GP army.

x x x

The pirates figured out how to track the Kamidake's jumps and they started jumping out in front of them in mass so they got off track and ended up off course.

Chapter Five: Escape

The Kamidake had been missing for three days

Ryoko brought the ship to a Da Ruma guild outpost and camouflaged it as a trading vessel. She sold goods to the space pirates trying to capture the Kamidake in hopes of gathering information. The supplies she brought were flying off the shelves. On the bridge of her ship she was watching information coming in when Airi contacted her.

"You look troubled."

"I'm worried."

"Don't forget who's on board that ship with Seina. I'm sure they're fine ... besides look at this." Ringo said from the other side.

Data came up showing a rapidly growing number of ships damaged by the Kamidake.

"That has to be the highest number of pirate ships ever destroyed by one ship."

"I can't wait to get the Kamidake back. The data it must be acquiring with this trip will be amazing. Please get Seina back soon. I want that data." Airi said.

"We still can't go into that territory in mass, but we are doing our best to monitor the area with what we have." Ringo told her.

"I have a feeling this is going to cause a big fuss by the time it's all over."

"Even so... I worry about them being pushed to their limits. I wonder how they're doing."

x x x

"Are you OK, Seina?" Amane came into Seina's bedroom where he was laying on his big bed.

"You haven't slept in three days, unlike the rest of us ..."

"But..." Seina had been tasked with choosing their evasive routes but that only led to him constantly encountering more pirates.

"This is the first time I've been in your bedroom here... this is an odd room..." It was a bed with a canopy in a room with erotic indirect mood lighting.

"It's just what I'd expect from Airi." Amane said as she went from sitting on the edge of the bed to lying next to Seina. "Are you sure you're okay Seina..."

"I'm sure Amane..." He could sense a change in tone in Amane's voice.

"Hey Seina..."

"Yes?"

"It's about time..." Amane reached her hand over across Seina's chest and slowly went down towards his crotch. Which throbbed with Amane's touch.

"About time for what?" Kiriko asked as she grabbed Amane's hand right before it got to Seina's crotch.

"Go away Kiriko!" Amane's tone returned to normal.

"This is an emergency, we should refrain from doing any unnecessary activity!" Kiriko said argumentatively.



Seina hurried to hide his bulge with a blanket as the two shot each other looks.

"What are you even doing in Seina's bedroom Kiriko?"

"Seina, here take this." Kiriko ignored her and gave Seina a bottle of water.

The water had algae powder in it that provided the necessary vitamins and electrolytes they needed.

It was farmed using the ship's septic tanks and provided for emergency use but wasn't very good tasting. The ship would have normally also have an emergency food generator that recycled excrement into food but the Kamidake was never intended to need it as a test ship so it hadn't been installed.

"I'm sorry Seina but it's all I can give you today."

Usually the captain was given a full meal regardless of the situation but they were out of food.

"Seina are you ok with drinking that?" Amane asked.

"After a while you get used to it... it kind of tastes like unsweetened tea from back at home."

"Really?"

"Amane you should go back to your own room." Kiriko said.

"Fine..." she left.

Kiriko got into bed with Seina like Amane had before.

“Seina-chan.” She said with the same tone Amane had.

With Amane he had been able to resist temptation but Kiriko was much too hard for him.
“Kiriko?”

The expression on Kiriko's face as she approached was that of a woman in heat.

Seina wanted to pounce right on top of her but he didn't succumb to temptation. He knew she was right and that they should refrain from wasting energy.

“Seina-chan.” Kiriko moistened her lips.

“Hey I'm sorry but I forgot to.... KIRIKO!” Amane said, surprised as she came back in the room.

“Amane were you just pretending to leave so you could come back!”

“Well ... uhm.”

But soon Seina was snoring as his exhaustion caught up to him.

NB came in.

“Kiriko ... you are needed on the bridge ... the three operators were yelling at me.”

“Fine ... On it ...” She got up and left.

Amane went to get into bed with Seina

“Amane ... please go rest in your own room.”

“chh ... ok fine ...”

After they left, NB changed into Kirche and covered Seina with a blanket. She thought to herself about something as she watched him sleep.

× × ×

“I'm going to tell you three what I told Amane. Don't make me use any more energy than necessary right now.”

“Oh wow, someone's in a bad mood.” Gyokuren said.

“Don't fuck with me right now Gyokuren!”

“I'm not Seina... You and Amane were fighting over him, weren't you?”

“..... Hmpf.” Kiriko turned and walked away from her.

Gyokuren got a glimmer in her eyes. “You know, if it were me I'd be willing to risk exhaustion to be with Seina. That would be the ultimate final happiness for me.”

"What a corny thing to say... it suits you, I'm sure you'd love to fuck till you die. If you weren't Seto's underling I would crush you!" Kiriko clapped back.

"Careful, I might have the pirates throw you out of an airlock if worse comes to worse."

Their emergency plan was to surrender to the pirates and then have Hakuren's group overtake the pirate's crew... since they were Seto's people, they and the package took safety and survival priority.

"Well, hopefully we can keep on like this... we've managed to avoid any pirates for a while now."

"I wonder what Airi would say if we handed over the ship to the pirates..."

Alan and his three sent their chairs down to their room to escape the two's conversation.

x x x

"Fuck fuck fuck fuck fuck fuck fuck fuck fuck fuck fuck fuck fuck! FUCK! Why the hell are we doing this again?!"

"Because we're broke and in debt."

"Even so, this is not what I signed up for!"

"Are we going to let them treat us like this?" Alan said throwing a water bottle at Barry.

"Well... we are the ones responsible for this..."

"I don't care, I'm hungry! The others have had special training to endure this..."

"What do you plan to do about it? It's not like there's some secret stash of food lying around."

"We should negotiate with the pirates!"

"What!?"

"Shh, be quiet. They might be listening in on us." Alan covered the other two guy's mouths.

"Ok... but are you serious?"

"Do you really think we have a chance of escaping this way? No ... We're going to die if we don't."

"Ok, but how!?"

"They want that thing we're shipping."

"That's treason!"

"That's not treason... it's negotiating. If we negotiate the safe release of the Kamidake, Jurai will be indebted to us for life! Not only will they pay off our debts, we can ask for money from the pirates and use it to move to our own places in the far away reaches of the galaxy!"

“...Really Alan?”

“Do you have any other backup plans?”

“We could sell them Gyokuren?”

“Alan! How can you even suggest that?!”

“....Fine... so if we get the package... how do we even contact the pirates?”

“Uhm.....”

“Leave that to me idiot-sama!”

“Ahhhhh! NB!?”

NB had come in and joined in on the conversation unnoticed. “I can get it and I can contact the pirates for you!”

x x x

Three hours later the guys were surrounded by pirate girls who were ogling them and feeding them steak.

“I never expected things to go that smoothly!”

“Thank you Alan! This was the best idea ever!”

“You’re welcome! And thank NB too!”

x x x

Gazura was watching them from the bridge. “Hah, they sure know how to pick ‘em in the GP.”

“What were the conditions they gave?” An officer asked.

x x x

“What do you want?”

“Safety and money... and the safe release of the Kamidake.”

“Well, I can do the first two for you guys... but the last is a bit difficult.”

“Well... you know... the Kamidake is basically out of food right now so add that in and you’re good.”

“Alan! What are you doing?”

“You said we were going to save the Kamidake!”

“You guys are right.... Throw in some hot babes and we will forget all about the Kamidake!”

x x x

Gazura finished playing the recording of the negotiations to the officer on the bridge.

"They seem to only be on board because they're the idiots who started the Ryoko Balta fan club. They raked up a huge debt and they're just trying to pay it off."

"Heh... I can understand why no one else would want to work with Mr. Yamada given his history."

"I agree... were lucky the GP was desperate in picking their staff... so is the package genuine?"

x x x

Gazura gave a signal to the girls, they distanced themselves from the idiots and drew guns on them.

"Uhm.... what's going on?"

"That package was a fake." Gazura came in to say.

It had taken time to get inside and verify things.

"A fake?"

"What kind of a joke is this?" Gazura threw the box at Alan... he opened it and inside was a dildo.

".... THIS was what Seto is having us deliver?!" Alan stared at it confused and upset.

"How can you tell it's not the real one? Aren't all of these things... well fake...?"

"Do you even know what was supposed to be in there?"

"Uhm ... no ...?"

"Well too bad ... Congrats ... you're now our hostages ..."

"Hey! Don't blame us! Blame that NB guy!" Alan grabbed NB and handed it to Gazura. "Here take this! This should be worth our safety! This is Seina's personal NB! It was made by Airi herself!"

Gazura's mood changed. "Hehe, is that so... I guess that is worth something..."

"Screw those three I have something I would like to negotiate with you in private!" NB said.

"Shut up NB, can't you see were in the middle of negotiations here! I'm sorry sometimes it says stupid things, it's quirky like that."

"Be quiet you three... Take them to a cell. I'm taking this thing with me."

The girls dragged off Alan's trio.

Gazura went back to the bridge.

"I'm going to change shape now. Please do not shoot me." NB said... and then it changed into Kirche.

Gazura was stunned by the beauty of the transformation.

"You... I've seen you somewhere before..."

"Aaaaah! That's Kirche!" an operator yelled.

× × ×

"Miaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaah!"

Seto watched as Ryo-Ohki left Jurai and headed up into the stratosphere. Around her others cried and waved good bye.

× × ×

"Did you say Kirche?!" Another operator turned around to look at her. He was a big fan.

"Is this for real?!"

Kirche was an AI with no body... it would have been extremely hard for someone to have faked her form and she was so famous that if her data had been leaked everyone would have known.



The operator performed a scan on her.

"That's definitely the original. The program is reading 100% accuracy."

"But didn't she go missing?"

"I only know about her because my kid is obsessed with her, but I watch her show with him because she's not half bad to look at."

"Wow, this is the first time I've seen an Idol up close!"

The ship's crew circled to look at her. Kirche was embarrassed by the attention.

"Will you guys shut up, I'm trying to figure out why she's here!"

The pirates shut up.

"So anyways.... what the heck is a pretty young thing like yourself doing here of all places?"

"Oh that... I'm here to tell you that long range communications on the Kamidake were down so I just hacked into your system and sent out a distress signal..."

"God damn it! Find that signal and block it! Now!" Gazura said angrily.

"You are quite the brave one... tell me why would you pull such a gambit?"

Kirche was betting that they wouldn't hurt her because she was not only a famous idol but also Seina's NB, which contained valuable information.

"Because if I didn't my captain would suffer."

"Sir, there is no sign that any communications have been sent."

"Perhaps she's bluffing... hey you over there, what about you?"

"Nothing here either."

"Oh well. It doesn't matter. Even if you did send out a distress signal, Jurai isn't about to send one of their ships out here and neither is the academy."

Juraian Royal ships were the equivalent of nuclear weapons, there was no way they would send one out to such a disputed area as this one. They could bring one in for transportation purposes but if they attacked it could cause a war to break out.

*** * * Translators' note: They keep mentioning this but keep in mind that Seina, Seto, Racepsi, and Kiriko all bring Royal trees into disputed frontier space and Seina ends up quarantined on Earth after volume 13. * * ***

Gazura looked at Kirche closer. He blushed.

"Why are you looking at me like that?"

"Uhm... I recognize that bio-metal you're made of..."

"Oh yeah, I've seen that stuff in porn before... that's so weird."

Kirche blushed.

The entire crew forgot about the situation that was going on and began talking about porn.

Kirche turned bright red.

"Oh man... there was this one time I met this girl and I swear she looked just like...."

Boom! The ship shook. Something was firing at it.

Chapter Six: Conclusion

"Wow... I'm amazed... they really are that stupid."

The crew of the Kamidake watched on the bridge a recording of Alan sneaking off the ship with the fake package. Alan gave the finger to the camera and made a boastful expression as he pointed to the package and got into an escape pod.

"Wow, they actually went ahead and did it..."

"But that's a fake right?"

"Right..."

"So, they're going to send them back to us soon..."

They noticed Seina was looking upset.

"Seina this isn't your fault."

"If anything it's ours." Kiriko and Amane said.

"Are you sure this isn't my bad luck's influence? NB was even involved."

"Don't forget this is a test ship meant to help us learn how to cope with your bias. This can only help us make sure it doesn't happen in the future." Kiriko said.

"Still those idiots stole our package. They will be lucky if the worst they get is re-training." Amane said.

"I guess you're right ... some things just can't be helped."

"Well... there's probably more to NB defecting than just your luck." Kiriko said.

"How?"

"There is probably a reason for it defecting... remember it's programmed to help you... and subspace communications are blocked on the ship." (Still, it seems like it has a will of its own sometimes.) Kiriko thought.

"OH! So it did it to broadcast our position to get help!" Seina realized what she meant.

"Alright then! Then set a course right for the pirates so they can find us!"

"Alright. Hakuren give the remaining rations to Amane. She will be manning the ships weapons systems. The rest of us should go rest." Kiriko said.

"But how will the ship function with all of us asleep!?" Hakuren asked.

"Don't worry.... Kamidake.... please take care of things for us!" Kiriko said out loud.

A rainbow appeared on the bridge.

"Is this a Royal tree ship?!"

"No, but Airi's team installed an AI to mimic one. It's very smart, but it can't substitute for Amane's sniping skills."

"I see... makes sense if they're going to send it to fight a war..."

"Exactly..."

× × ×

Later Hakuren came to talk to Kiriko in her room in private.

"Hey Kiriko."

"What's up?"

"In order to get Alan and his people back, you might be thinking about sacrificing NB... please don't."

"Why... that's our best bet...."

"Haven't you noticed.... there is someone inside of NB?"

"So it's not just one of Airi's programs?"

"No... It's an Astral AI... its ok if you tell the others ... but don't tell Seina."

"Thank you for telling me this Hakuren."

"Well... I better be off to my room."

Hakuren left. Shortly after, Kamidake gave Kiriko a warning message.

"We've encountered pirates."

"Damn that was fast." She brought up a monitor of the situation but the Kamidake instantly fired on the ships without warning blowing them up.

"Hmm ... wow that's just what Amane would have done... keep up the good work Kamidake."

× × ×

"I've found Seina!" Ryoko cried out happily in front of her crew on the disguised ship. She had analyzed the damage reports from the pirates and figured out the ships course.

"Can we send a hail?"

"All Communications seem to be blocked."

They jumped to find Gazura's fleet doing battle with the Kamidake.

"Wow, that's amazing, look at it go!"

"If we can't communicate through normal means with them we're going to have to send a laser transmitted communication."

They rushed into the fray and began trying to send a communication laser to the Kamidake but the Kamidake was in defensive mode and was not easy to hit.

"This is no good. We're going to have to fire in all directions at once!"

"But the other pirates will get the message too if we do that."

"Then prepare to jump afterwards"

"We're ready!"

"Alright let's go!" Ryoko transformed into Erma because it was easier for her to operate as her.

The message got to the Kamidake.

"Emergency jump!" They jumped off into hyperspace. The Kamidake also jumped at the same time as if it had been anticipating them.

x x x

"Where did they go?!"

"Sir, there seems to have been a ship that looked like a container ship that snuck into the battle. It sent them some co-ordinates."

"Even if they jump after them with the AHP on their hull it's going to take a while for them to catch up. Go after them!"

x x x

A few minutes later a few hundred ships jumped out in front of the Kamidake

"Where's the container ship?"

"Hold on..... found it!" A huge white flash went off in outer space and the ship shook.

"What was that?!"

"The Kamidake has exploded part of its outer shell!"

The Kamidake darted around quickly and started docking in the shipping vessel.

"It moves like a Juraian Royal ship ... What is that thing!?..... Quick tag the Kamidake again and place a tracker on it this time!!"

AHP again coated the Kamidake as it docked inside the container.

The slimmed down Kamidake finished loading itself inside Ryoko's ship and they jumped off into hyperspace.

× × ×

“Yes! It worked!” Gazura rejoiced as he noticed the ship struggling to stay in hyperspace a few seconds later.

On the inside of the ship the friction had caused damage to the inside of the container.

“A little help here Airi?”

“I've managed to finish analyzing that paint stuff, this should do the trick. Be careful, they put a tracker on it this time.” Airi transmitted data for a formulation that would dissolve the AHP. The walls on the inside of the shipping container began spraying the Kamidake down with it.

“The container's internal temperature is decreasing. The Kamidake is stabilizing!”

“As soon as its stable jump!”

“Captain we have about 20 seconds till we're good to go.”

“How stable is it so far?”

“About 25 percent.”

“Establish communications with the Kamidake and drop out into normal space! Prepare for a long distance jump.”

“Ok, returning to normal space, now! Everyone prepare for the shock!”

The ship shook as it left hyperspace.

“Captain, we have a line open to the Kamidake!”

Erma stood up as Seina appeared on screen.

“Erma-san? ... or should I say Ryoko?”

“Either is fine.... is everyone okay?”

“Yes but, well... we're a bit hungry.”

“When the Kamidake stabilizes I'll have someone bring over some food.”

“A ship has jumped out right next to us. That was quick! We have to jump now to avoid it!” An operator reported.

“Erma, the Kamidake hasn't stabilized yet!” Kiriko cried.

“Erma! We have to go now!”

An emergency jump was too risky. Ryoko realized she had no choice but to try to fight it off.

The ship shook.

“Captain the enemy ship has managed to penetrate our shields but there has been no damage!”

AHP now covered the exterior of the ship, in the process a huge hole had been blown in their shields.

“Prepare to purge the outer hull as soon as the Kamidake is stabilized and then jump!”

Ryoko prayed that strategy would work. But before they could the ships around them grappled them and anchored them so they couldn't jump

× × ×

Kirche was worried. Gazura noticed and grinned.

“Thanks, you helped us out! The Kamidake is as good as ours now.”

“They're not caught just yet.... You shouldn't underestimate the academy like that...”

“We aren't stupid either, we've thought about how they would react to the AHP and we have anticipated their response.”

“But what will you do if they jump?”

“We know this part of space and it's not hard to figure out where they're going to try to hide... Besides with that tracker we can find them no matter where they go.” Gazura boasted.

Kirche sighed in defeat suddenly a field surrounded Kirche and she was confined.

“Tell Tarrant that it's time!”

× × ×

“Seina! As soon as the Kamidake is stabilized I'm going to have the ship release the cargo container so you can get away!”

“No Erma! If you do that you will be caught! There's no telling what Tarrant will do with you.”

“If he catches you it's going to be even worse. Besides you need to get that package to safety. Don't worry! I can change my identity.”

If they mistook her for an academy person they might hold her for ransom and return her once negotiations went through.

“Ryoko! Your death hasn't been announced yet! Maybe you can convince them you were trying to capture us.”

"Please leave our affairs to us to decide," her adjutant said.

"High level gravity distortions are being detected! A ship is jumping out!"

"It's the Daedalus!" Erma said, recognizing the feel of the tremor it was causing.

Her cries silenced the bridge. Tarrant knew what had happened so her hopes of getting out alive had just vanished.

"WAIT! Bombard the ship and have the Kamidake use it as a shield for escape!" she cried. The ships staff set to it.

"Seina the ship will be stable in two minutes! Go as soon as you can!"

"NO!"

"What?!" Seina's reaction stopped the crew on the bridge

"That is unacceptable. I won't do it."

The Daedalus grappled onto the ship and begun dragging it in.

x x x

"Ha... we've finally caught them! Thank you for your efforts Gazura. I know this has been a challenging week.... everyone get ready to bring them to me and don't waste any time." Shank said

x x x

"If you don't, everyone will die! Hurry!"

"No!"

"Erma! Get your crew into space suits and we'll open a hatch so you can board our ship! Go now!"

"OH!"

"And bring food!"

"Amane!"

"What about the container ship? Who will control it?"

"Our ships AI will do it... "

"Deputy Commander get everyone to the Kamidake immediately!"

Within 5 minutes everyone was transferred over.

x x x

“Seina!” Kirche yelled.

“Sir, we're reading rapidly rising energy levels from the container ship.”

“They're going to suicide bomb us! Quick! Detach the anchor! Don't let them get away!”

But it was too late, an explosive white light blinded their monitors but they quickly applied a filter and saw the Kamidake was gone.

“Find them!”

But another burst blinded the monitors.

“A diffuse beam?” Tarrant’s ship had fired it and it had torn the coating on the hull of the Kamidake off.

“Tarrant has caught them!”

“No get away!” Kirche screamed.

The crew cheered

“Well, that's that.”

“Thank you for all your help Gazura.” Tarrant came on the monitor.

The operator went to close communications when ...

“Wait... is that Kirche? ... Gazura what's going on...?”

“I'll explain.” Gazura started in.

“Make it quick”

“How do you know who I am?” Kirche interrupted.

“You're Kirche right... I've seen your show.”

“Oh thank you! I'm surprised to meet someone from outside of the academy who knows me.”

Gazura moved out of the way and let them talk while he started working on something and got distracted.

“You know we had some trouble in our systems due to an AI with an Astral. I'm glad to see you're not the one who was causing it.”

“You know I'm missing, right?”

“Of course, but I never thought I would see you here.”

“Well it's a long story actually I....” She told him a long drawn out story making sure not to include Seina in it.

20 minutes later she was still talking and Gazura realized something was off about how she was extending the conversation but Tarrant was very interested.

"Tarrant, it's about time, don't you think?"

"If you say so."

Kirche thanked him for listening and she looked at Gazura and smiled.

"Everyone please... sit down for this!"

Tarrant was about to get Seina when a huge blow shook the ship

"Miaaaaaaaaaah miaaaaaaaaaaooooooooou!"

"What was that? ... It felt like a Juraian Royal ship. What's going on?"

"Our sensors were knocked off line! I can't tell!"

"No, you're right! I'm right here! Can you get me?" Kirche said.

"Miyaaaaaaaaah!"

"No way is that?!"

"Sensors are back online... What!"

"Miaaaaaaaaaah!"

The figure of the Daedalus caught in Ryo-Ohki's tractor beam appeared on screen.

"I don't understand! The ship says.... that's the Ryo-Ohki!"

"Wow, the legendary hero Ryo-Ohki is here!"

"Don't get carried away guys! That thing is not our friend!"

"But!"

"The Ryo-Ohki always worked alone. It's not with us!"

Ryo-Ohki focused a second tractor beam on Gazura's ship it went flying towards it.

"The ship is going to be pulled apart by that thing's tractor beam!"

x x x

Seina and the girls were suddenly transferred to the bridge of the Kamidake. The pirate ships were let go from the tractor beam.



"What's going on?!"

"Aaaaaaaah!"

"Oh!"

"Is that!"

"What's the matter?" Seina was confused.

A notification came on screen that NB, Alan, Barry, and Cohen had been beamed back on board.

x x x

"Fyew! Seina's safe!" Airi said to Ringo as she heard about what happened with the Ryo-Ohki.

"I'm a bit disappointed though since it means we were not going to get any more data"

"And how would you expect us to pay for that? Don't be greedy," Ringo said. "The only good thing to come out of this is I found a lot

of holes in the accounting that we had done earlier and I plan to make sure we get paid every cent."

"Oh God... you don't mean me, do you Ringo-chan?"

Chapter Seven: Each Outpost

The pirate ships cleared a circle around the Kamidake as if to give it to Ryo-Ohki as an offering. Ryo-Ohki transferred the Kamidake inside of itself and the ships stood at standby as if it were a God and they were worshipping it

The Kamidake was compacted and stored in Ryo-Ohki as they headed for Jurai.

The pirate ships surrounding Ryo-Ohki didn't even try to attack as it prepared to leave.

Tarrant had jumped off in the Daedalus in fear and none of them were foolish enough to think they stood a chance against the ship that took on Jurai alone.

In the hanger Seina was busy confronting Alan who had been returned from Gazura. As expected, it was an awkward talk but Alan made it worse by opening his mouth first.

"You have to believe me, I had no intention to betray you captain. I only wanted to do something about the situation we were in! I figured they would spare our lives, that's why I brought them the package!" Alan bowed deeply repeatedly. "Besides, I was just following what your NB told us to do!"

Naturally they all knew it was Alan's plan from the beginning and he was only blaming NB for it.

"I am too tired to talk about this now Alan. I'm starving. So, go back to your room and wait there until we arrive on Jurai."

It was true, but Seina also had no authority to decide what happened to them, that was Airi's job.

Seina noticed NB floating in a corner.

"NB you too. Go to my room."

× × ×

Later in the Seina's empty room: "He's alright.... I'm so glad..." NB said in Kirche's voice.

× × ×

"Miah Miah Miah!"

In the Kamidake's dining hall a humanoid Ryo-Ohki ran to hug Seina. Ryoko Balta was amazed by her.

"It's an honor to meet you, I've always wanted to meet the legendary Ryo-Ohki."

"Legendary?"

"Yes, she is the ship who single-handedly ambushed Jurai and took them head on. I'm named after the pirate who piloted her, Ryoko... Ryo-Ohki can you tell me the story of how you invaded Jurai!"

“Miah?”

“Uhm, can we save that for some other time...” Kiriko said uncomfortably.

“Right, what Kiriko said ... I want to know what you’re doing out here all alone.... you're so far from earth.”

“Mia, Mia, Miha!”

“So, you got sent on a mission to Jurai? And Professor Washu didn't come with you... You're here all by yourself? That’s amazing! I'm proud of you!”

“Wait... Earth?! Professor Washu! Is Washu Hakubi also on earth!?” Ryoko asked, stunned.

Ryoko was also Erma and the legendary philosopher was also one of the most interesting people she idolized. However, she was aware this must have been a top secret thing.

“Well... Ryoko, since you’re acting on behalf of the Captain now, it might be better for me to tell you about what's going on... In addition to Ryoko, Washu Hakubi lives on Earth with the missing Juraian princesses Ayeka and Sasami.... and the Kuramitsu's daughter Mihoshi. Very few people know this, it is top secret. You are not to tell anyone.”

“Ahhh! Yes. Of course!” Ryoko said in a panic.

“It's quite a sight to see, all of them should be enemies but they're not.”

“Miah! Miah!”

“Huh what's wrong?” Seina asked.

“Don't worry she’ll keep it a secret.” Kiriko said.

“How do you know what she's saying?”

“Ryo-chan's miahs are a special high speed language... its super sped up but it's all there... even people who don't have bio enhancement can understand after a while... don't worry Seina, soon your bio enhancement will be advanced enough that you'll be able to understand her too.”

“Oh! Really?!”

“Miah!”

“Foods ready everyone.” Hakuren came in with lots of food on a tray.

“Oh wow, that smells good... I can't even remember what food tastes like, it's been so long.” Amane said as she looked at the food as it was arranged on the table.

Everyone was excited for the food... except Alan's trio who were in their rooms

x x x

"What is this?" Hakuren had brought them some food too.

"Space pirate prison food was more edible than this junk..."

Cohen took a bite. "Oh wow, this is really good... Barry, you have to try this."

"Oh wow, you're right!"

The food had been made with the crops that had been given to Ryo-Ohki as a souvenir from Jurai.

"Hey! Pay attention when I'm ranting!"

But they were too absorbed in eating to notice.

"Hey! Heeeeeeeeeey!"

Eventually he quit trying and started eating and was soon also huffing it down.

× × ×

NB transformed into Kirche, Airi had called her and so she gave her a report on the situation.

× × ×



"Miah!"

"Miah!"

"Stop squirming we need to get behind your ears."

"Miah! Miah!"

The bathroom of the Captain's cabin was as big as a small pool. In it the girls were washing Ryo-Ohki.

(Why are they here?) Seina sat in the corner. Originally he had come in here with Ryo-Ohki to take a bath, and the girls soon followed.

Ryo-Ohki had actually invited everyone to take a shower it seemed.

He wasn't sure if he should sneak out or stay put. If he was noticed it might not go good for him. (What should I do?)

"MIAH!" Ryo-Ohki jumped on Seina's back as he thought.

"She wants to know why you aren't playing together with the rest of us." Kiriko said.

"Oh... I uh... how should I explain?"

"Miah."

"Oh you have a big bath like this back at Tenchi-senpai's place?"

"Miah!"

"What? And Tenchi-senpai sometimes bathes with Ryoko-san?"

"Uhm, that's uh..."

"Looks like we're going to have to drag him into the fun."

Amane and Gyokuren and Erma got up and picked Seina up. Ryo-Ohki jumped around happily.

× × ×

"...I saw everything....." Seina said lying on the bathroom floor. He had slipped and hurt himself.

Ryo-Ohki stayed behind and fanned him with a little fan.

"Oh, thank you, Ryo-chan."

× × ×

The girls all got into GP issued negligee and they all ended up sleeping in the same room together.

Ryo-Ohki curled up with Seina because she missed Tenchi.

× × ×

When they woke up they had arrived at the place where the Juraian escort ships were waiting for them.

They saluted Ryo-Ohki and she got the Kamidake out of compressed storage and lowered it into space before heading off.

Ryoko began to cry. "Wow, I never thought I'd get to meet the legendary ship herself. I can't believe she's so cute!"

"Well, you'd never be able to tell by most accounts of what went on, but in actuality most of the damage done by Ryo-Ohki actually missed the settled areas of Jurai completely unless she was firing back at someone." Hakuren said.

"Oh wow! Are there videos? Can I see them?" Ryoko got really close to Hakuren.

"Uh.... If you go to Jurai's central library you can look at them."

"Captain, an escort ship from Jurai has arrived."

"Oh, is that...." The ship was shaped like a lotus flower. It was Ringo Tatsuki's ship Honoka. The ship got close enough to use optical communication and it guided the Kamidake to dock inside.

x x x

When they disembarked Tennyo was the first to greet Seina. She rushed to him crying and hugged him.

"Are you ok... is anything hurt?" Tennyo checked him all over for signs of scratches.

"Yeah, I'm fine, I'm sorry I made you worry, Tennyo Oneechan."

"Oh, well, then there's no need to apologize... I'm sorry we gave you the general purpose model of the ship to test this time. We should have beefed it up before sending you on this mission."

Behind her was Airi and Hakuryo.

"Tennyo if we hadn't then the ship never would have been ready for mass production." Airi said.

"You only set it up with all that scanning equipment because you expected him to run into the Big Da Ruma! If Erma hadn't rescued him they would be dead!" Tennyo yelled at Airi.

"Wait... What?!"

"No! No! It's not like that I swear!" Airi said.

"Oh... So I was right... I thought it seemed like more of a data gathering ship." Erma said.

Todo and Nene came out of a transfer gate and soon Ringo followed them.

"Oh!" A sigh that one makes when one see's a beautiful sight came from the mouths of Seina, Alan's trio and the males of Ryoko's crew as Ringo appeared from the transfer gate.

"Wow... she's gorgeous." Amane said. This was her first time meeting Ringo and her reaction was similar to the men's.

*** * * Translators' note: They sure do love implying that Amane is bi. * * ***

"Oh Seina... this is Ringo Tatsuki, she was in charge of the mission to find you."

Ringo smiled and Seina and her eyes met, Seina's heart beat fast.

"So....you're Seina."

Seina was reminded of when he had first met Kiriko. The shop was busy that day, and his mother couldn't pick him up and so she came to get him from school. He instantly had a crush on her. Seina unconsciously blushed and bowed.

Ringo turned to look at Kiriko. Kiriko was blue in the face. She still felt guilty over drugging Ringo and shipping her off the last time they met.

“Everyone please, I hope you enjoy your stay here, please come with me.”

× × ×

“Wow, she's pretty!”

“Who is that person?” Barry asked Ryoko's adjutant.

Alan and his trio who had been hiding from Airi behind Ryoko's crew, jumped forward to gaze at her.

“That's Ringo Tatsuki, she was in charge of the mission to find Seina... Didn't you hear her...?” Ryoko's adjutant said.

“Wow! I'm going to marry her!” Alan said.

“What do you mean you're going to marry her?” Cohen asked.

“We're saviors of Jurai now! They're indebted to us! What better reward is there for their benefactors then to let them marry one of their beautiful princesses?!”

“Hohoho, I like your theory, but I have it on good authority that there is another surprise waiting for you once you get to Jurai.” Todo said coming up to them.

“Oh! Who are you?!”

“I am Todo, Ringo-sama's butler.”

“Nice to meet you, I'm Alan and this is Barry and Cohen.”

“Please come with me, you are going to a special transfer gate.”

“Oh wow! Our own gate!? Maybe what Alan says is true.”

They skipped over to a different gate than the one Seina went through... Where they were greeted by the same military officer who had previously taken them to be retrained. The officer punched Alan square in the stomach, yelled at the idiots and showed them the footage of them flipping off the camera. Alan tried to convince him that he was just going along with NB's plan but they reduced his salary anyways. So he tried to convince them they owed him and should pay off his debt. They weren't falling for that. They took him aboard their training ship by force.

× × ×

Tennyō and Airi, accompanied by NB, remained in place to begin the investigation of Kamidake. Ryoko's crew and the Kamidake's crew were guided to the guest houses in the residential district.

“Ringo, what are we to do?” Hakuren asked, since originally she and her team were dispatched from Seto to engage as Seina's entertainment.

“You're fine, you're still on duty as Seina's crew.”

“But!”

“Seto says to let him take a rest, and if you do just that, Seina will be pleased with you.” Ringo gently smiled

Hakuren and others bowed deeply and went into the guest house following after Seina and the others.

“Wow”

It was a room full of light pastel style furnishings. The retractable ceiling was completely open, the sunlight from the world tree lightly illuminated the room, showing a landscape like a calm spring day.

The Royal Tree residential areas basically all had the same structure. There was a huge world tree in the center, the space was fixed, and the environment etc. were all adjusted. From then on, depending on its partner's taste it would be landscaped. Usually there would be food production fields and orchards necessary for living. Livestock, farming, freshwater and saltwater lakes full of fish and shellfish, birds and insects, etc. were added. Clothing manufacturing, medical facilities, and often plants to manufacture machinery, etc. were installed, and so there were usually people who worked and lived in the Royal ships.

Although Honoka was of the fourth generation, it had been modified by Washu and had the capabilities of a third generation, so the residential area was quite wide, and if it was expanded to the maximum possible, tens of thousands of people could live in it. However, since Honoka had been adjusted, there was not much room for residential districts. Currently it seemed like a newly created park on the inside.

“Please feel free to relax until you arrive at Jurai. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have anything come up. We will be arriving at Jurai in two hours,” Ringo said.

x x x

Ringo came up to Seina. “Nice to meet you, I am Ringo of the Tatsuki Royal Family.”

“Nice to meet you, I am the Captain of the Kamidake, Seina Yamada.”

“Unfortunately, it wasn't very easy for me to help you in this situation. I wish I could have helped you sooner but there were technical issues. I'm sorry Seina, I have caused you various inconveniences.”

“Oh no, I don't mind, it's normal for me. It was the others who were in trouble that I was worried about”

“Did you do your best to help them?”

“Well of course, but what I was able to do was pretty limited”

“Well, that is the most important thing. If you had neglected your duties even a little, they probably wouldn't be here right now.”

“I guess you're right about that.”

“It doesn't matter how much you can do as long as you're able to keep them safe.”

“Thank you very much for that pep talk, I will do my best more often.”

“Yes, I'm expecting you will.”

Kiriko and Amane talked about her as she talked to Seina, when she was done she got up and went up to Kiriko.

“.....Oh, hey...”

“Kiriko, will you come talk to me for a bit?”

They headed to the room to be alone. Ringo turned to Kiriko and tried to say something but Kiriko crouched down and burst into tears.

“Kiriko-san, I don't care anymore, I understand your feelings well”

Kiriko kept crying. Ringo decided to patiently wait for her to stop crying.

× × ×

“By the way, Tennyō seems to have said something amusing when she greeted Seina. What was that about?” Amane asked Ryoko.

“... Oh, about the data logging?”

“Well... I realized it when I was first finishing preparing the Kamidake for him.” Ryoko gave a detailed account of Kamidake's final adjustments.

“... .. So the Kamidake isn't the model of the ship that they actually plan to use?”

“No, the ship that will actually be built should be a completely different thing, the one you've been using is just for gathering and collecting data.”

“Are you serious? It was a pretty amazing ship, but I sort of got that impression.”

“Yes, in fact it's a terribly powerful ship, otherwise I wouldn't have leaked it's info to the Da Ruma Guild. It is a revolutionary ship composed exclusively of existing technology, in a sense it is truly an invention of philosophy. As you know, the original goal of philosophy was to combine the existing knowledge of every field into new technology.”

“..... So what you're saying is Airi is more than just a huge pervert. Hmm.” Amane, said with her arms folded and serious face.

"Well she is definitely still an odd one."

"So what do you think they were collecting data on?"

"That's something I should explain." Tennyo broke into the conversation and sat next to Seina.

"Sorry, Seina, Airi-sama made me keep it a secret."

"No, everyone's okay, so it's fine. Besides, I'm the one who took on the mission."

"..... Oh, I'm just so happy you're safe." Tennyo wiped away her tears and hugged Seina tightly.

"... Tennyo, you were going to tell us about the Kamidake?"

"Oh sorry, I'm so concerned with Seina-chan I forgot... Airi-sama was using it to observe Seina and make sure we could use the data to build him a ship that could overcome his probability bias...."

"Really?" Seina looked strangely at Tennyo.

"Yes and we got some great data, and thanks to those three idiots eating all the food we now have even more data than we expected ..."

"Well yeah ... but it's all data on what happens in extreme conditions, ha ha"

"As a Captain, trying to protect your subordinates is fine. But sometimes it's not worth it Seina, their actions may have caused you all to die. You're lucky you're still alive."

"That's my fault... ..."

"Seina, please stop blaming yourself, it's not your fault. That's why those idiots are being re-assigned to another ship..."

".....I'm sorry?"

"Wait, what happened?" Amane asked.

"Oh, they didn't tell you? They've been demoted back to trainees."

Seina was a bit surprised at that.

"When I first met them and Seina as Ryoko Balta, I got the feeling they were troublemakers." Ryoko said.

"It might be better to just dissolve that team."

"Probably but for now the same guy who retrained them last time has volunteered to re-train them as a group."

"Wait if they're trainees, what will happen to Alan's debts?"

"Their payments will be put on hold for now because they won't be making enough to pay on it and live off of what they make, but once they go back up in rank it will be up to them. But there's no need to worry about them. Those idiots went as far as to suggest that Ringo should have paid off their debt.... but in the end they got their debt changed to have no interest. Anyways... thanks to all this data Jurai's next series of flagships are likely to be ready ahead of schedule... The new computer unit being used so much helped a lot too."

"What was up with that thing anyways? Seina and Kiriko said they resembled Royal Trees ..."

"It's a little more specialized then that but that is what we were trying to emulate... what did you think of it Amane?"

"It felt almost inferior to Kiriko and me. We probably could have done just fine without its help..." Amane pondered and said after long consideration.

"Really!?"

"Well, maybe for some other crew it would be useful but we're way more skilled then it..."

"Hah, maybe we should make your skills top secret instead then."

"Haha, well I hate to break it to you, that secrets already been leaked."

x x x

"R I N G O, R I N G O!" Honoka came in looking for Ringo.

"Oh, Honoka-chan, are you looking for Ringo-chan?"

"O H ! T E N N Y O, T E N N Y O!"

Seina looked strangely at Honoka, as it jumped into Tennyo's palm.

Honoka, who noticed Seina's gaze, hid behind Tennyo, it had been told to keep itself a secret, but Honoka, which was a Royal Tree basically loved people. So it curiously peaked its face out from behind Tennyo.

"This is Honoka-chan, the terminal form of the Royal Tree, it's sort of like Ryo-Ohki-chan."

"T E N N Y O I S T H I S O K W I T H R I N G O - S A M A?"

"Yes they're guests." Tennyo gently stroked Honoka.

".....Hello"

Honoka came out from behind Tennyo and said with a nervous voice. "H E L L O"

"Honoka-chan, this is Ryoko Balta, and Amane Kaunaq, and this is my younger brother Seina Yamada."

"LITTLE.... BROTHER?"

"Yes, that's right."

"... .. S E I N A?" Honoka came closer to Seina.

x x x

On Jurai all of Seto's people gathered to have a conference to plan to welcome Seina to Jurai.

"Seina has been a great economic savior to us... we should do something to show him our gratitude..." Seto said.

"... .. What should we do?!" the men asked.

"Ehehehe, we know what to do~~~~~!" The women snickered.

"I'm sorry, Kiriko-chan ...but I might not be able to help Seina this time ..." Minaho muttered as she skulked away from everyone.

"Minaho chan ~ ~ ~" Misaki snuck behind Minaho and whispered.

"Kyyyyaaaaaa ~~~~~!! Oh, it's just you Misaki!"

"Ah ha ha! Isn't this exciting?!" Misaki jumped off Minaho's back. Minaho turned around and looked behind her.



"Funaho, Azusa!?"

Not only Funaho as usual, but Azusa was there, it was rare for him to involve himself in Seto's plans.

"Grandmother Funaho, please stop this before it gets out of hand." Minaho cried.

"Ok but when are you going to make me a great grandchild?"

"Hmmm this might be a good occasion for that..."

"That is exactly the sort of thing I want to help prevent... please is there any way you could help?"

"Would you to maybe like to bring Seina over to see us?"

Minaho tilted her head, unable to understand why Azusa said that.

“Seina has been a great benefactor to us, but we can't officially invite him over to see us unfortunately... We can have him do it informally and then we can show him some hospitality till things settle.”

Even though he was recognized as a special case, Seina had not yet been registered as an official Galactic Federation resident. Officially meeting with him had to be done differently because of this, due to Jurai's position within the Galactic Federation, and Seina's official status as an early civilization person under Airi's care.

“But if Seina can graduate from the GP Academy, he will be officially recognized as a resident of the Galactic Federation ...”

“Yes and at that time I have to remember to bring him back here for another huge welcome ceremony! We can't make Jurai seem to be ungrateful now, can we?”

“I think I get what you mean but Seina is still underage”

“I've heard quite a lot about him...You would be a good girl for him.”

“I think there would be absolutely no problem for you if you wanted to make him your husband.”

“... .. Husband?”

“Husband.”

“Yes, but Seina already has Kiriko chan”

“Well he's no ordinary boy... So I don't see that being a problem.”

“Eh!?”

“He's going to need more than just Kiriko to support him with his abilities...”

“Uhm well.....”

Seina was supported by all of the Masaki's who were on Earth, all of them, Kiriko was just the one closest to him.

“Of course, you should get to know him but I think it might actually solve a lot of problems for him. Besides we need someone to keep him away from that crusty old hags influence! Not to mention Airi and that old Kuramitsu hag too... Besides I think you stand a better chance with a minor then you do waiting around for Kanemitsu to have any more children.”

“What! So you want me to get involved in the fight for Seina?”

“Help him, help Kiriko-chan to help him, as it stands Seto has too big of an advantage over him right now.”

“Grandmother Funaho

“I also think you should participate.” Funaho said with a gentle smile.

“So do your best!” Azusa and Funaho said synchronously.

And with this Minaho also decided to participate in the fight for Seina.

x x x

Ringo came back in the guest room.

“RING O, RING O!” Honoka ran to Ringo. “RING O! RING O! I F I N A L Y M E T S E I N A”

(Oh, I see, it remembered when I talked about Seina.) “Yes, I see, I'm glad” Ringo petted Honoka.

“Thank you all for keeping Honoka company. We’re about to arrive, so please come with me to the observation room.”

Chapter Eight: To Jurai

It was the moment when the sun rose from behind Jurai that Honoka jumped out of hyper space. Jurai only had one single giant continent covered in forest. The rest of the simply landscaped planet was sea. But as they descended into the atmosphere, the ground surface illuminated by the morning sun exposed a scenic landscape.

“Beautiful.....”

The observation room seemed to be flying in the sky as walls and floor were made of full sized screens that displayed the scenery outside. Honoka was not just flying towards the destination but was taking a flight route that was reserved only to special visitors being welcomed to the country, like Seina.

“How amazing..... I saw it before in the video, but that huge tree is even bigger in person.”

The trees that they saw as they flew low through a forest area were almost a kilometer high

*** * * Translators' note: For reference Mt Everest is almost 9 times that high but it's still huge. * * ***

Seina could never in his wildest dreams ever imagined such a thing, Honoka suddenly changed course, and headed for a forested area shaded from the sun.

The light from the people who lived in the trees nearby could be seen around them along with plenty of silhouettes in the huge trees floating in the darkness it looked like a huge Christmas tree.

However, Honoka raised its altitude a little, and Seina gasped in amazement at the scenery.

“That is Tenju.”

He looked where Ringo pointed, the silhouette which had blocked out the light was caused by an overwhelming mass that emerged into the sky where the overwhelming dimness ended.

“..... Does it go all the way into space?”

It was as if a hole had been opened in the sky. The scale of the tree made it look as if it supported heaven itself, it was even larger than the massive world trees that existed in Honoka and the Mikagami.

Honoka slowly started moving along the outer periphery keeping a certain distance from Tenju. Tenju, which was still cast in a silhouette because of the position of the back lighting, gradually began to emerge in the morning sun. The scenery appeared to be a divine thing as if it was coming down from God.

".....oh." Since Seina had come up into space, he had come to see a large number of huge buildings that were larger than Tenju. However, none of them were naturally created. Seina forgot to breathe, it felt so mysterious to him. All of those who were there felt the same.

"Even though I've looked at it many times, it still makes me feel solemn." Ringo muttered as she sighed.

"Can we land soon? I'm a bit worried about ... you know." Seina came close to Ringo and asked her in a bit of a loud voice.

"Oh... Okay, that's a good idea." Ringo put her hands together and answered with a superb smile. Honoka sped up and headed to Tenju's upper level, the area of the emperor's dominion.

× × ×

When Honoka came to land on Tenju, it opened up its petal like gate to the hangar and the Kamidake slowly climbed out of it and started flying to a special port in the imperial area.

"Our mission is finally complete." Seina said.

The Kamidake slowly descended and headed to its destination. Seina saw a huge lake when he arrived along with giant vines and a wide variety of plants. There were some trees on the tree which were buried soil...

"Wow, I can't believe such a place could happen naturally ..."

"It's not natural, Captain."

"What!?"

"Tenju is the founder of Royal Trees, and another body of Tsunami. It's like the world tree that supports the habitable area of the Royal ships."

"So, is that what created the Royal trees?"

"Yes, and around Tenju, it keeps the environment under control and of course the gravity as well. Such a huge object should have collapsed under its own weight, and we're almost 10 kilometers above the sky, normally water would be frozen up here."

At that time, Seina noticed how high up he was from the planet's surface.

"Hey, Kiriko-san, why are there are gaps in forest.... it seems like nothing is growing in random places..."

Of course there were places on the continent where trees didn't grow, such as mountain ranges, but these gaps were not growing when there was nothing to hinder their growth.

"About 700 years ago, Ryo-Ohki invaded Jurai and those are areas that were destroyed."

"Huh, Ryo-Ohki did this?"

"Trees have been planted there but it will take thousands of years before those scars disappear."

The biggest hole was over 10 kilometers in diameter.

"I can't believe one ship did that much damage."

"Ryo-Ohki and the Royal trees could destroy whole planets easily if things got serious."

"Kiriko, why did Ryoko do this?"

"It was only a guess until we heard it from Ryoko herself, but she was trying to capture the founding tree. Tsunami."

"Captain, we've anchored into the landing beacon." Hakuren reported. On the screen the port of Jurai was displayed. The area seemed to fuse into the landscape as well as everything else around Tenju. Mostly because most things were made entirely of wood.

"It's surprising right? Jurai is full of trees so lots of things are made from wood. I was surprised too when I saw it for the first time, so I understand your feelings."

"Jurai is truly a mysterious beauty ... it's almost impossible for me to believe that people live here ..."

"Well... It looks this way because Jurai is a settled planet." Hakuren said as she projected a video on the monitor.

"Settled?"

"Yes, the Juraian people didn't evolve here, they were people who came from other planets. So everything here was carefully planned."

"If you go to the lower part of Tenju or out of town, you'll see its quite lively and well designed, if you have time I can show you."

"Please do, Ms. Gyokuren."

"Gyokuren! Wait a moment! Where are you planning to take him?!"

"Captain, we will be arriving at the landing point soon." Kiriko's voice stopped the conversation.

A row of strong Juraian fighters and female officers in weird outfits greeted them on each side as they disembarked.

"No way!?" Kiriko said as she came down with Hakuren from the Kamidake with Seina, she looked nervous to see those people.

"What's wrong, Kiriko?"

“Those are the Royal Guards, and there are representatives from all four houses” Hakuren spoke instead of Kiriko. “Some of them are Seto's people...”

“In this case the female officers are dressed like this because they are no longer married, they either lost their husbands or are divorced, they are experts in information gathering, and are also Seto's assassination squad.”

“Wow ... this is quite the welcome.” Amane said.

Hakuren nodded. “There are guards from all four houses ... That means that the baggage that Seina has is very important.”

[How long are you just going to stand there, its rude?] Airi sent a confidential communication to them from the Kamidake.

Kiriko looked spooked. “Sorry, let's go, Captain.”

Seina walked out with the package elegantly. (It is an important item. I have to carry it properly.) As he began walking, the fighters beat the long sticks they had on the ground several times and gave ceremonial gestures.

[This is a ritual done to the Royal Family when they return. Kiriko, what do you think is in there?]

[..... That thing has to be a tree, there's no other possibility...]

[That explains the guards.]

Kiriko and Hakuren spoke to each other quietly as they walked behind Seina.

The two in the middle walked towards Seina when Kiriko and Hakuren came up to them. Kiriko and Hakuren got down on their knees one step behind Seina, and lowered their heads graciously.

“Seina Yamada, thank you for bringing this all this way.” They bowed deeply to thank Seina.

“You're a member of the Kamidake's crew, go with them.” Hakuren whispered to Kiriko who got up to follow Seina.

Two female officials began to walk with Seina. The other officers right and left began lowering their heads as Seina passed by, bowing in pairs and following a certain distance behind Seina.

Seina got into a large open bus.

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The forest of giant trees and flowers on one side, and small pond and a river flowed for about fifty meters, on the other. As the bus went through a natural park where butterflies and birds flew, Seina was watching the odd scenery when a female officer came and put her hand on Seina.

“... It's good to see you're safe.” Seina heard a voice he recognized, Kiriko did too.

"Aunt Tsukiko!?"

"Mom!?"

"I'm glad you're safe too." Tsukiko said. Seina seemed relaxed, he teared up.

"Mom Why are you here?" Kiriko asked.

Tsukiko wiped away Seina's tears, with one hand while holding Seina's hand with the other.

"I came because I wanted to make sure you and Seina were safe."

"Oh I'm sorry ... I didn't mean to make you worry about us."

Tsukiko gently stroked her head and then headed over to Amane.

"I'm Tsukiko Masaki, Kiriko's mother. I am indebted to you for everything you've done for Seina-chan and Kiriko." Tsukiko thanked bowed deeply at Amane.

"Oh no, I'm indebted to them." Amane got up from her seat and thanked her the same way.

"I look forward to showing you Jurai, if there is something you need don't hesitate to tell us." Tsukiko once again bowed and covered her face in a hood and returned to her original position.

"You look embarrassed Kiriko..."

"When parents say hello to friends and colleagues, it always embarrassing."

"She looks like she could be your twin."

"Everyone says when my mother was a student she looked exactly like me."

Seina sat back and watched the scenery go by.

x x x

The Kamidake had been moved to Honoka's hangar. Airi stayed and didn't go with Seina, she was with Tennyo and Hakuryo, and NB on the Kamidake's bridge.

"I'm sorry but it's much too damaged, were going to have to retire it."

"Please wait to do so. I understand Seina's feelings well, I think he would like that." Ringo reflected on the monitor gave a nice smile.

"It's his first ship, so I'm sure there is some attachment. Guys tend to have a strong attachment to their ships" Tennyo turned to Hakuryo.

"What are you looking at me for?"

"I am not an expert in men's psychology, so I can't make a conclusion"

"I think we should hold off for a while, but not too long we have to get to junking it soon."

x x x

Seina was brought to a dark place. With buildings like those on Earth. Bing bong. Seina stood in front of a door and rang the chime. "Home delivery for Seto Kamiki Jurai."

"~~ Yes, be there in a second."

Through the intercom, he heard a cute voice from Seto, the door opened with a lock opening sound, Seto came out in an apron.

"Please sign here." Seina handed the package to Seto then launched a monitor for her to sign.

"I don't have anything to sign with....how about a thumbprint ♡" Seto winked and said.

Suddenly the housing complex disappeared leaving only a rudimentary set of walls and a door in the large room. It had all been a hologram projection. The lights turned on and he saw it was a luxurious hall, a guest house, and Seto's local officers and Kiriko were watching Seto silently.

"Why did you turn on the lights? We hadn't even gotten to the fun part yet."

"Seto This is no time for a joke!" Kiriko said.

"Oh... sorry Kiriko-chan, I've just spent so long preparing for this that I got a bit carried away ..."

"I'd expect this sort of thing from Airi but not you."

"It makes no sense to have Airi sign for this package."

"And what's with the weird hologram house..."

"Would you rather it be a ginger bread house?"

"Seto-sama, I feel like your acting skills could use a bit of work," one of the officers said.

"Yeah yeah! I know I'm not that great... but Minaho-chan was supposed to be the one accepting it and I had to fill in last moment." Said Seto said shutting the door of the house structure.

"I could see this working if maybe Seina was a little kid but ... I dunno, she's too old, it just felt weird." The other officers started chiming in.

"I just came here to see Minaho act."

"I thought the story was good! I give it a 10."

"I think the actress is too old looking for the part."

In terms of appearance, Seto looked to be the same age as Airi, like she was in her late 30s but with perfect skin. Her atmosphere was the only thing that gave away her age.

"Yeah, it was bad, I wonder where Minaho ran off too... well, I guess it must have been important..."

"Well, thanks to her being gone we only had watch this this play half way."

"It was a bad play!"

Behind the door Seto had been eavesdropping at the door listening to her reviews.... the walls fell over....

"..... Heh." Seto had already changed into her formal wear. Seina was relived it was over.

"Seina I'm sorry for the hokey play." Seto said with a delicate tone.

"Oh no... Don't say that, you did a great job... I mean it was a bit much for me but it suited you well!" Seina said.

"Oh, I'm happy to hear you say that." Seto smiled.

Her officers sighed.

"It's too bad Airi-sama and Mikami-sama weren't here to see it.... ahahaha! Anyways... now that I've received my package safely, I should take a break until lunch.... Hmmm who wants to show Seina around Jurai?"

Seto began looking around.... her staff all eagerly raised their hands.

"Wow! As expected... You're a popular person... Who should I choose?"

"Ms. Tsukiko Masaki, please!" Kiriko shouted loudly as if to choose for Seto.

"Well, that's fine, but well at least one more ..."

"Tsukiko Masaki, please do it by yourself!" Kiriko stared at Seto who seemed dissatisfied. "I said Tsukiko Masaki, please do it by yourself!"

All the officers lowered their hands when they saw the dangerous look in Kiriko's eyes.

"Fine... There's no helping it ... Tsukiko-chan, please go take Seina to see Jurai... Amane, Ryoko, Kiriko-chan and Hakuren come with me to give your report on what happened." Seto sighed.

"If you don't mind I'd like to shower first..."

"I need to change clothes."

"Oh, I see I understand. Well then I will see you and Ryoko later."

"Yes ma'am." Amane and Ryoko entered the transfer gate

*** * *Translators' note: This next section is weird... as Seto gives a similar monologue in the next novel to Kiriko... which is even weirder when you consider she does it here.... except this is the real Seto.... and the one on Imuim is mirror Seto which explains it... * * ***

"I prepared quite the surprise for them where were going... It's a shame."

"Please don't give us any unnecessary thank you presents!"

"No... I must!"

"What!?" Kiriko was surprised by Seto's face as she counter attacked her statement.

"Seina has been suffering from various troubles until now, from natural disasters to attacks by malicious forces ... But his power to deal with them is outstanding, he has a high tolerance for being treated poorly that has been cultivated since childhood, doesn't he?"

"Well yes But that doesn't mean you have to get him into any adult situations..."

"No, the two big instincts of humans are individual preservation instincts and tribal conservation instincts, the desire for food and the desire for reproduction. Appetite is essential immediately after being born, but the desire for reproductive growth is due to maturation of the body. Both are difficult to control, but Seina's overwhelming experiencing a shortage of reproductive greed. His bad luck has been treated as harmful all his life, and many people have tried to get away from him, but now that he is famous, many people are approaching him. People who came close to Seina in the past and have been favorable but what if malicious people begin coveting his affection. It's a recipe for disaster."

"Are you sure about that Seto-sama?" Gyokuren, who was watching over their conversation until then, said a bit sarcastically to Seto trying to justify her own actions.

"Of course, if you change your point of view, then the influence of Seina's power on this world is far more than I ever imagined ... it's dangerous."

"I can understand that Seto, but there's no need to rush things... .."

"Are you saying that because you honestly think it's bad for him, or do you feel that it is a bad thing because of Seina?"

"Do I feel that it's a bad thing because of Seina?" Kiriko tilted her head. She didn't understand Seto's question.

"Maybe I should say it this way... do you think that because of Seina's bad luck?"

"Maybe it makes you think you dislike Seina sometimes?" Hakuren chimed in.

"Oh."

"Seina draws Space pirates because Seina recognizes the existence of Space pirates as a 'bad thing'. Naturally, if that position changed, the Galactic Federation would be bad and he would attract us. What I'm trying to say is the quality of the trouble that Seina attracts might be effected by Seina's beliefs and if his way of thinking changes there is a possibility things might change... but I have to test that out to confirm it..."

"That's horrible ... you're treating him like a weapon."

"You would look at it that way, you're too pessimistic about Seina, it is better to say that for Seina it's his strength. In any case, from a Space pirate point of view, he is a weapon." Seto smiled and turned to look at Kiriko in the eyes. "Weapons are abandoned when they are no longer needed, and that's why we have to look for a technique to control Seina's bad luck from now on, to do that it is necessary to make his wishes come true."

"Lady Seto!" Kiriko remembered the time before when she quarreled with Seina about him not returning to Earth.

— — — I want to stay in outer space. If I miss this, I'll never get another chance ... I want to go to places on a spaceship and see many things!

If Seina's bad luck hadn't become necessary, it was highly likely that he would have ended up isolated somewhere, like radioactive waste. But that would have deprived Seina from ever fulfilling his hopes and dreams. But if he could control his bad luck.....

"You seem to understand, now don't you?"

Kiriko nodded.

However, it was still impossible to convince her immediately.

"Then it's not overkill now is it?" Seto said with a gritty look.

"..... Ringo-chan, would you like to do it?"

"What! I uhm uh..."

"Hmmm, maybe Minaho-chan should do it... I know he'd probably have the least complaints if you did it Kiriko-chan."

"I can't just do it with him like that"

"We don't know what will happen if you wait now do we? I'm sorry, but Seina's not in a situation where we can wait for such a thing.....hmmm, well, maybe Gyokuren chan is a bad idea... "

Seto looked at Hakuren's group.

"Why am I excluded?"

"That's a good decision."

"Oh, Why do you say that Karen?" Gyokuren smiled at Karen putting her on the spot. Hakuren froze up and began thinking to herself at a high speed, Suiren turned red and hid behind Hakuren.

"Uhm ... I uh... you see" Karen looked away and her face turned red.

"Well if none of you want to do it, I guess I'll leave it to my other officers? They're good at teaching."

“What!? NO!”

“No matter how you cut it, things are going to be complicated. His first time especially in the case of Kiriko and Seina, you two will have only yourselves to blame when it's bad and you can't keep the relationship going afterwards.”

“Well, that is uhm”

“Hey Kiriko-chan, if you really want to be Seina's first, you should consider doing some kind of training.”

“Well uhm...!”

“Seto, that's enough!” Karen quickly interrupted the conversation.

Seto didn't mean sex between a pseudo-personal construct she meant the real thing.

“Uhuhuhuhuhu.” Seto approached Hakuren, and smacked the back of her head with her hand, snapping her back to reality.

“Is it that difficult to teach people without actual experience?”

“Hey It will be Seina's first time... don't you want it to be good for him?” Seto said.

Kiriko started thinking to herself about it.

“I do not need to think about it, I'm happy to devote my virginity to Seina.” Gyokuren quickly answered with a smart glittering smile.

“.....eh??”

Everyone, including Seto, looked at Gyokuren with strange eyes.

“What... I am a virgin.”

“Whaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaat.....??” Everyone said all at once in astonishment.

“..... Rude... and you of all people should know....” Gyokuren stared at Hakuren and smiled with her tongue out.

“Even hand and mouth?”

“Of course ♡” Gyokuren smiled brightly.

“I don't mean to derail the conversation but Kiriko if you let Gyokuren-chan go first then Seina will compare everyone after to her. Wouldn't you rather have that be you?” Seto nudged Kiriko.

“Well, that is uhmm”

“Think about it... I'll give you thirty seconds!”

“Well uhm...!”

“Ten seconds have passed.” Seto brought a watch out of her pocket and started counting.

“Wait a moment!”

“20 seconds have passed, 10, 9, 8 ...”

“Ahhhhhhhhh.....” Kiriko was embarrassed by Seto's heartless countdown.

× × ×

Seina was brought by Tsukiko to place that looked like a Japanese garden. Water gushed from the bottom of a small pond.

“I don't mind doing it, but it's easier if you take off your own shoes...” Tsukiko said.

Seina took off his shoes and entered the room.

“Now, sit down there and relax. I'll make us some tea ... or, if you're tired, I could let you get some sleep...”

“It's all right, I've gotten some rest and I'm adjusted the time difference too, heh.”

“Is that so.....” Tsukiko looked at Seina and distorted her expression and she hugged Seina.

“Aunt Tsukiko! I'm sorry, you must have been very worried...”

“I was worried ... but it was more frustrating than worrying.”

“Frustrating?”

“If you hadn't made it back I would have just died without you.”

“What?”

“Don't laugh Seina, I love you”

“... ... I also like you too Aunt Tsukiko I hmmmfmf.....” Tsukiko kissed Seina to shut him up.

It wasn't a kiss one would give their child, it was a kiss one would give another adult.

“Aunt..... Tsukiko??”

“When I heard you had gone up into space I was stunned... When Kiriko came up to space and chose to live away from you Seina, I thought I was going to take her place with you, but you just went up into space with her. After she came around, Kiriko accepted it. I was really happy, as her mother, and as your guardian” Tsukiko looked away from Seina and leaned to press her forehead against Seina's chest. “It took this incident for me to realize I couldn't wait around to tell you my feelings anymore.” Tsukiko said.

Seina's heart beat faster. It was the first time in his life that a woman confessed her feelings to him. When he was a kid he had gotten to know Tsukiko's face well. But he only recognized her as the mother of Kiriko and Kai, but when he observed her now, he noticed that she had the youthful glow of a woman in her prime and looked to be little more than Kiriko's older sister. Before he went up to space, he might not have accepted that confession. But now that he had an extended lifespan, his perception of the age difference had changed completely. Even if she was twenty years older, the difference of twenty years or thirty years meant nothing in the two thousand years he was expected to live, it was like less than a year, at most a school year.

(This is bad!) Seina's tension was steadily rising as he begin to feel consciousness of Tsukiko as a woman who had confessed her love for him.



And since she had kissed him he was very aware... He tried to distance himself from her, but she wouldn't allow him to. She noticed the change in Seina and drew closer to him to get near it.

"Hey, Seina-chan" Tsukiko said to Seina with a hungry look in her eyes. Seina felt weird about seeing this expression coming from her.

He thought of her like Tennyo, Kiyone and Minaho, but at the same time she was different from them. However that wasn't why he felt something was off...

"You're not Aunt Tsukiko are you?" Seina said unconsciously.

"What are you talking about Seina-chan" Tsukiko moved her face closer to Seina.

"Hey Aunt Tsukiko!"

"Please call Tsukiko," she said delicately.

"Oh, uhm... hey, Tsukiko aahhh!"

Tsukiko kissed Seina again and as she held him in her grip strongly.

"Seina, that's not my mother! It's a fake!" Kiriko and Hakuren came in the room.

"Fake?"

"Oh, it's been a long time hasn't it?" Tsukiko changed. Not only her face but also her body to another woman's appearance.

"Kuisu Panta!? What are you doing! You're the Captain of the local corps!" Kiriko looked startled.

The local corps was primarily responsible intelligence gathering. Their Captain, Kuisu, was a particularly mysterious person. Even before Seto and Minaho she rarely exposed her face. Kiriko had never seen her face in person, only in video materials.



"Amazing she's the genuine article!"

"This is the first time I've seen it too." Hakuren reacted like she saw a ghost.

However, the figure of Kuisu was a plain woman who didn't seem to be the Captain of a local battalion at first glance. She looked to be around 40 and seemed overworked.

"This is the first time I've seen you in this form. Did Seto put you up to this ... why are you here?"

"Uhm well....."

*** * * Translators' note: They don't do a good job describing her and don't illustrate her till GXP 14, so here you go.**

That's her. * * *

Before all this:

Kiriko was about to miss out on Seto's countdown when suddenly the start - up

sound of a communication monitor was heard, and the monitor started up in front of Kiriko's eyes.

"Ms. Kiriko, incoming communication from your mother on Earth."

".....What!?"

"Oh, Kiriko! You're safe! I'm so glad. I thought I'd give you a call once you arrived on Jurai to see how you were doing!"

"Mom?!"

"Is Seina safe?"

"... .. Mother, what on earth is going on?" Kiriko looked at Seto through the monitor, she quickly diverted her eyes.

"Why are you acting so funny; is everything alright? Minaho-san told me that Seina-chan had arrived on Jurai, so I called as soon as she let me know ... uhm, hey, Kiriko!?"

Kiriko ignored her mother and understood everything from how Seto was looking away. She ran out after Seina.

"Wait, Kiriko!" Hakuren followed Kiriko with the other three.

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"So Why are you here?"

"Damn Minaho, that woman would be the one to disturb my enjoyment, I'll have to punish her later."

"Kuisu-senpai, please unhand Seina!"

"Before I do" Kuisu raised her hands to stop Kiriko who was approaching her.

Kiriko stopped like she had pushed a pause button. Even though her power gave off no intrusive pressure like Seto's. She managed to stop Kiriko with just a casual hand gesture. Reading the hearts of people and manipulating them – – that was the ability of the leader of local the local corps, she was Seto's top officer.

"Hey Seina, do you know why I'm able to become Tsukiko-chan?"

"Huh?"

"I have never met her before. But working such a job, I have gotten to know everything about her and I have assessed her identity so I am able to become her ... that should be proof enough for you..." Despite her plain appearance, Kuisu's eyes had a force in them, a strong will and presence like Seto's. And when Seina noticed that in Kuisu, who was supposed to be a plain and mediocre looking older woman, he noticed she was also an irresistible and attractive woman comparable to Amane and Gyokuren.

"Please, I'd like you to tell me about your life in secondary school."

"That's not easy ..." Seina tried to get away from Kuisu.

"I know it will be difficult, but please explain with concrete words as much as possible."

"Well, uhm" Seina tried to put the words in his mind into sentences. He looked in the direction of Kiriko, and began to explain to Kuisu so that Kiriko would not hear him. He whispered.

"... .. Oh, I see ... Thank you ... Thank you" Kuisu smiled and once again drew her body close to Seina, then she he left from him so fast that Seina fell over.

“Thank you, I will tell you something good as a reward. When I turn it into someone, I have to know something about that person.”

“Yeah, I thought you were the real Aunt Tsukiko.”

“That's why I told you what I just told you... what I said before was not fiction ♡”

“What?! Oh!!” Seina was surprised and caught off guard, Kuisu pushed Seina into a small pond. Seina disappeared.

“Oops!” It was an emergency transfer gate. The one Kiriko had jumped out.

Kiriko stared at Kuisu and ran towards the gate.

“Be careful Kiriko-chan! If you aren't careful, Tsukiko-chan will take your place,” Kuisu said.

Kiriko jumped into the gate after bowing.

“Minaho seems to be rooting for you Kiriko-chan, but for me I'd like to support Tsukiko-chan ... Well, either way I have to punish Minaho for disturbing my fun.” Kuisu turned away from Kiriko.

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“I confirmed the activation of the emergency gate,” an officer gave a report to Seto's other officials.

“I can't believe that Ms. Kuisu showed her face!”

“Well, I did warn Kiriko that she had to act fast...”

“Seto, preparation for the public bath has been completed But Seto-sama, I'm not sure how to say this ... but Seina has disappeared from our tracking system...”

“Something tells me Minaho is behind this....

*** * * Translators' note: OK, so I'm going to level with y'all. I cut a large scene here... one of Seto's ladies in waiting got proposed to.... It was long and annoying and never comes up again. It's filler with non-characters and basically just took up time long enough for her to ask if Seina was still missing. * * ***

Seina felt like he was floating..... He opened his eyes and found himself suspended in the air upside down.

“Aaaaah!” Seina felt like he had bumped his head... He looked around and saw the trunk of a huge tree... A lady was climbing Tenju as she held him.

“Where am I?”

Seina was thrown up and flipped right side up and the woman grabbed him and smiled at him.

"Welcome to Jurai Seina."

"What?! What's going on?!"

Seina remembered the face of the lady, but wasn't sure where from. Suddenly she began climbing up super-fast.

"Seina's here!" she called. Suddenly Seina was taken in a window... and was placed on a soft cushion.

"Why didn't you bring him the normal way?" A quiet but powerful voice said.

"Are you all right? You're not hurt are you?" A worried woman squatted down over him.

"... .. Funaho Masaki Jurai?" Seina said.

Funaho smiled. She was surprised Seina remembered her.

It was Misaki Masaki Jurai who brought Seina up Tenju to see her. He couldn't see his face but Seina was sure he knew who the man there was. (That must be the Juraian Emperor, Azusa Masaki Jurai ...) Seina hurried and sat up, he saluted the three of them.

x x x

Together with Hakuren, Kiriko got on a pleasure train that toured around the place. It ran from the lower layer to the middle layer of Tenju and then to the upper layer. It was a train that traveled slowly over the course of about five days.

She got up and walked towards the back to the section reserved for Royalty.

"Welcome."

"Ringo-sama! Why are you here?" Ringo greeting her in the uniform of the train crew.

"This line is managed by my relatives, Minaho is waiting for you."

Kiriko entered and was welcomed by Minaho with a smiling face. In the lounge car the whole sky could be seen.

"Thanks for your hard work, it was a lot of hard work, please sit down ... you too Hakuren."

"Ms. Minaho, where is Seina now?" Kiriko asked.

"Now my grandparents have taken him to their place."

"What!? It's off limits to everyone without permission, even Seto!"

"Is that so....." Kiriko sat down on the sofa relieved.

Ringo put some tea in front of Kiriko and smiled.

"Please enjoy, Hakuren, you too," Ringo said. Hakuren also sat on the sofa.

"But Minaho, how long do you think you can keep Seina out of Seto's grip while he is here? Honestly, indefinitely would be best ... Seto-sama is trying to do something with him that I seriously have to think about."

"It's no wonder that you want that... but I don't think Seto-sama is planning to do anything right away. I think she was just teasing you."

"You call that teasing!?"

"Do you know why that assassination attempt on Seina happened? Or what triggered Seina and you to meet Seto?"

"Yes, the number of member countries to the Galactic Federation has increased, and the pirates were overwhelmed by our forces ..."

"Yeah ... well, as you know Kiriko-chan, our finances for fighting have recently increased greatly..."

"That was hell ... Ringo-sama is like a demon with expenditures ..." Kiriko turned pale blue and trembled.

Ringo cleared her throat and looked away.

"Since Seina came into the picture there's been a sharp decline in the damage caused by Space pirates, and not only the Galactic Federation but also Jurai have seen considerable economic development. Of course tax revenues rose with that, our anti-pirate costs have also decreased, and the huge amount of prize money from capturing the pirates have kept Ringo and I very busy."

"...Yes ... and other... various things."

"Of course, the accounting department has had their budget cut, but that's a good thing, everything has started to move in a good direction. Ryo-Ohki even came to Jurai on a peace mission thanks his help. You saw her right?"

"Yes, she was not like what I pictured from the rumors, she was pretty cute."

"Yes, well, thanks to Seina our economy is booming and Ringo's accounting department practically worships him. So you can see why Seto is eager to do some more experimentation on him, right? Anyway, I can keep him away from her but only for a while... There is a luncheon scheduled for him this evening, and from there he will be getting a new assignment. So it's up to you once he gets to the luncheon."

"A new mission?"

"Yes, I think you will be surprised."

“Yes, I understand. Well then, please keep Seina in the Emperor's place until the luncheon ...”

“I think he's safe for the time being.” Minaho said relaxing everyone.

“Well then, I better hurry.” Hakuren said.

“Hakuren!?”

Hakuren changed to Kuisu Panta as the car they were in was cut off from the rest of the train.

“Kuisu-senpai! What are you ...?”

“To sneak around inconspicuously is my specialty, you should remember that, Kiriko-chan.” Kuisu winked at Kiriko and looked at Minaho with a smiling face. “Well, Ms. Minaho, this more than makes up for you disturbing my entertainment.”

“What do you mean?! What are you planning to do?” Minaho asked, overwhelmed by Kuisu's powers.

“Oh, Ringo can you please do me a favor?” Kuisu glared at her.

“Ms. Seto, we've located Seina, he's on top floor of the Emperors Palace.”

“Unfortunately the plan is canceled, we can't get into the Emperor's Palace, but thank you for the info”

“It's too early to give up, please call Yuzaki!”

“Yuzaki-sama!? Well, this is his first visit to Jurai... He might as well meet her.”

“Uhuhuhuhuhuhuhu, Oh ~ ho ho ho ho!”

“Wow ~~, what a splendid villain's laugh...”

“As one would expect from Seto!” Like audience members watching a show Seto's officers applauded Seto behind her.

“Uhuhuhu! That makes you guys my evil henchmen, don't waste time saying such foolish things! Send out Yuzaki!”

“OK ~ ~ ♡”

Chapter Nine: Duel!

It was a place shaped like a big cage. On a circular floor of about 20 meters, plants like fine feathers grew and in the center there was a circular sofa-like ditch and wooden table. Big branched limbs formed a dome in a mesh pattern, and various plants, such as flowers and fruits emitted light and a window showed that the room which was at the top of Tenju had an amazing view.

"Nice to meet you, I am Captain Seina Yamada of the Kamidake!" Seina saluted.

"Nice to meet you, I am the Juraian Emperor, Masaki Azusa Jurai ... and ..."

"I am the head of the Masaki family, first Empress, Masaki Funaho Jurai."

"And I'm Juraian Empress #2, Masaki Misaki Jurai."

"Well, then, now that everyone's introduced"

"Oh, Seina, sit here! Sit down." Before Azusa's words ended, Misaki pulled Seina to the side and tried to sit him down forcibly.

"Misaki-chan!"

"Oh, sorry." Scolded by Funaho, Misaki quickly brought Seina back to where he was.

"First, let me thank you for the package that you kept safe for us." Azusa bowed deeply to Seina.

"Oh, that! I was just fulfilling my duties ..."

"That package was an irreplaceable important thing for us. Thank you for bringing it through all those pirates."

"Is that so? ... Then I'm glad it could be delivered safely, but ... uhm, well, never mind."

"Hmmm, if you want to know what's in it, don't worry, that shitty old hag will explain it later. So please be patient for a while longer." Azusa said understanding Seina's question.

"No, no, I didn't mean to pry ... wait... .. shitty old hag?"

"Yes ... I mean Seto Kamiki Jurai... Oh, that's right!" Azusa took out a small card from his pocket and handed it to Seina.

"Tentatively, if you want to file an appeal regarding anything she tells you to do, please consult me. Here, this card also serves as a sort of membership card, please register it later."

"Oh, wow, sure ... Thank you for that, but for now I don't think I have a single complaint..... and besides Seto was the one who let me go up to space, so I owe her." Azusa who once had a similar experience to Seina smiled a wry smile.

"Well, at this stage, you may feel that way hmm, then in that case, if I had said it could be used to appeal to me when Airi does annoying things, do you understand that better?"

"... .. I see. Yes... now I understand very well."

"Ha ha ha ha! Well, just remember that shitty old hag is way worse than her." Azusa laughed in a loud voice, looking at Seina who responded immediately.

"Um so... can I use this on Airi ...?"

"Hmm, I suppose ... I suppose I'd like you to think about it next time something happens, anyway, enough with formalities."

When Azusa said that, Misaki jumped to Seina and sat him down like before, she pulled out some tea and sweets from the bushes nearby and put them on the table.

"Now then, please don't hesitate to eat!" Misaki happily seated herself by Seina and began to pet his hair.

(Oh, that's who! Misaki reminds me of, Mitoto.)

"You don't have to be so tense, make yourself at home."

"Seina you're not just a benefactor to us ... Yes, I'd go so far as to say you are family."

"Family?" If you were told that you were family to the universe's most powerful military nation, it would be natural that you would be confused just like Seina was.

"Kiriko is a member of the Royal Family's Masaki family, Tenchi and Tennyo are my great-grandchildren, Ayeka and Sasami-chan are Misaki-chan's daughters, and also Kiyone is my granddaughter."

"Aunt... Kiyone"

"I've heard a lot about you from Tennyo," Funaho gently stroked his head too as Seina frowned a bit at hearing Kiyone's name.

"And if that's too loose a connection for you, if you think of things on a galactic scale, you are also from the same planet as me, and you come from a place very nearby, you were born so close to where I'm from you might as well have been born in the same room in the same house."

"Oh, thank you." Seina was a little tearful with joy. Not because of what he was told by Azusa but because even though he had just met him for the first time, he felt somewhat nostalgic feelings for Azusa.

"How cute!" Misaki hugged Seina tight as she petted him and she shook him as she did. It was too much momentum, Seina tried to seek help, but he gave up as he looked at the puzzled face of Azusa and Funaho.

"Hey, Misaki-chan, please calm down." Funaho cried.

"Oh.... ~~~" and then Misaki jumped to sit between Seina and Funaho.

"Come now, let's drink tea." Funaho recommended and put some cold tea down in front of Seina.

"Yes, thank you ..."

Seina drank the cold tea and took a deep breath, he finally looked around the room and noticed no one else was there but the 4 of them.

"... Uhm... Am I allowed to be here?" There were no servants so it must have been a private place.

"Oh, don't worry, I wasn't the one who invited you here it was someone who was superior to me."

"Who's above the Emperor of Jurai?"

"This tree Tenju, the Royal trees have the last say in everything, they let us live here..."

"The reason Tenju sent you here was to stop that shitty old hag's plan."

"Seto's plan?"

"On a side note... Seina, do you mind taking Minaho as a bride?"

"What?"

"Oh I see... that was too blunt." Seina was taken aback, Funaho was laughed hard.

"If Tenju hadn't interfered with the gate controller, you would have ended up in her trap."

"Well, Kuisu Panta did turn into my Aunt Tsukiko"

"You met Kuisu Panta! Really?"

"Yes Kiriko also seemed to have the same reaction."

"..... I see, this is serious."

In Azusa's expression, something like sorrow appeared for a moment but it quickly turned into a shaky expression. "That shitty old must be sicking the local corps on you" on Azusa's ear, a voice communicator started.

"Eh What...? Ok, I understand, I have no choice." Azusa looked towards Seina with an expression of agony.

"Seina... Minaho and Ringo have been taken hostage."

"What! Minaho and Ringo are hostages!?"

"How serious! What will we do?"

“Well, it seems that their kidnapper has request a battle with Seina.”

“Battle! Why with me?”

“The bravery of Seina is known galaxy wide... even on Jurai.”

“But I’m not a Warrior ... I have some basic martial arts training from the GP academy but it's just a small amount of self-defense techniques ...”

“You shrugged off a raid from hundreds of Space Pirates and Tarrant, there's no mistaking that you're a brave warrior, but be safe, don't let those hostages be endangered.”

“But, Minaho and Ringo are more trained then I am!”

“Fine then... I'll send the military to go rescue them...”

“No... Don't... I'll go.” Seina stood up.

“But, but!”

“I'm sure they've just been caught up in my bad luck, if that's the case I have to do something.”

“No, I'll send the military in to save them, we don't want one of Jurai's benefactors put in danger.”

“For me, Minaho is my benefactor. Thanks to her, despite my bad luck, I'm doing well, and I've recently become friends with Ringo-san and Honoka-chan. I have to save them.” Seina said seriously.

Azusa breathed a big sigh. “I understand.”

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“Tatsua hurry!”

“Yes!”

Tatsua Masaki bowed to Azusa and got into the driver's seat of an air car that Seina was put in. The air car left.

“I didn't expect Seto to make such a move.”

“Well this is Seina's first visit to Jurai.” Funaho and Misaki smiled at each other.

“He's a nice boy, isn't he?”

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“Are you nervous?” Tatsua asked Seina a few minutes after the air car started to move.

“Uhm.... Yes, it's a bit of a hassle, but I'm more concerned about Minaho ...”

"If their request is to fight with you, I think they'll be okay because their wish will be granted when you go to battle them."

"But ... what if they're not?"

"I'm sure they're fine, there is no need to hurt Minaho and Ringo. Besides, the only one likely to get hurt is you... or worst death."

"That is ... well, normal for me."

"If possible, I'd like you to come back safely - my wife is eager to talk to you."

"Wife, are you married?"

"My wife used to take care of Misaki-sama's daughter, Sasami-sama, but as Sasami-sama is on Earth, it is a top secret matter, she hasn't been able to talk to Sasami in years so I think she wants to talk to you about Sasami for a while."

*** * * Translators' note: This is Tatsua who faced Ryoko in the novel Jurai, his wife is Mahma the woman who looks for Sasami when she dies by falling down to Tsunami as Ryoko attacks. * * ***

"Is that so ... OK. I understand, I'll do my best."

"Please do ... Is Yoshō doing alright?"

"Yoshō? Do you mean Tenchi-senpai's grandfather?"

"Well, yes, in fact, I'm an old acquaintance with him. I was the reason why he was able to leave Jurai."

"Wow. I'm sure he's indebted to you. When I was young he scolded me a lot, ha ha ha.... But I was surprised when I came up to space and learned his real identity, but what surprises me the most is that he's married to Airi."

"Ha ha ha, that's good to hear." Tatsua answered with a laugh.

But those on Jurai already knew that Yoshō and Airi had a special relationships since their days at the Royal Academy and recognized that Minaho was her child with Yoshō.

"When Yoshō left, I was worried a lot, I was very happy that recently his safety was confirmed ... But from what I heard, he's been keeping in touch with Seto for a long time now. I don't mean to complain but I think he owes me an apology for not telling me sooner."

"Is that so ... uhm ..."

"I'm sorry ... I didn't mean anything by that... anyways that's the venue for the battle."

It was one of the places in the forest destroyed by Ryoko, located a bit far from the lowest level of Tenju. Even though there were big decaying trees hunched over, everywhere could see that there were seed beds that already had trees growing from them that were about a hundred meters high.

"We use places like these to train our warriors." Tatsua said as they landed on a fallen tree, he opened the door and Seina got out.

"If you go straight on this fallen tree, you'll arrive at the designated place." Tatsua pointed, there was a huge cave formed by big fallen trees.

"Okay, thank you." Seina bowed to Tatsua, and walked straight to the destination.

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Seina walked straight along the fallen tree to the huge cave. Sunlight entered through the ceiling gaps in the cave and it was quite bright. There were many mosses, vines and parasitic plants inside. Although he heard the sound of the water flowing, he couldn't confirm its existence. After he walked for about ten minutes he came out into a space like a spacious dome.

"Wow what is this?" Seina soon realized that this was the designated place.

"It's an interesting place, isn't it? The relatively soft part of the tree has decayed and the hard outer skin has been left behind, so.... you're the boy they're all talking about?" A woman stepped out from the dark into the sunlight from the ceiling.

The woman had a fearless appearance and short cut hair. You could tell from looking at her body that she had the flexibility of a leopard and unrelenting power, her entire body was like a spring.

(... But ...) The atmosphere he felt from her didn't seem like that of a person who would take someone as a hostage.

"Where are Minaho and Ringo?"

"They're fine, I've been treating them properly." The woman pointed to where Minaho and Ringo were. They were tied up close to the ceiling of the dome, and were secured by some guard men. Seina looked around and noticed a lot of guards standing at the walls of the dome.

"Oh, did you finally realize they were there? Don't worry they're just onlookers, think of them as big overgrown mushrooms." The woman smiled, but Seina had something else to worry about.

"Can I ask a question?"

"What?"

"Why are Minaho and Ringo in maid uniforms?"



The two were tied up wearing the same maid dresses that Hakuren's girls wore at Amane's house.

*** * * Translators' note: Sorry, this must be a Japanese phrase I'm guessing. Knowing Kajishima it's probably a phrase for vibrators. * * ***

"There is a phrase, 'maiden's souvenir' on the Earth, isn't there? That's why, if you can't defeat me, I think I will take them home as a souvenir."

"Uhm ... the meaning of that phrase is somewhat different."

".....Is that so?" The woman saw Seina was embarrassed. "Well it's common that such cultural misunderstandings happen, no need to be ashamed."

He still blushed.

"Hey, why are you so embarrassed?!"

"Uhm... well... let's just say that what you said was really off from what you think it means."

"Really? It didn't seem like it from how I've heard it used." The man detaining Minaho said, with a confused face.

"Shut up! Mushrooms are supposed to be silent!"

"Oops ~~~"

"Please release Minaho-san and Ringo-sama right away. I won't try to run or hide."

"I am going to release them after our battle, I need them tied up to insure they don't get in my way ... now then, shall we start?"

At the woman's signal, a man with a case full of various weapons came near. Seina glanced at the weapons, and picked up a weapon similar to a tonfa from among them.

*** * * Translators' note: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tonfa> * * ***

"That's a pretty good choice, in this place it's difficult to swing a long object. That can be shield or a gun depending on how you use it. Remember, don't hesitate to fight without fear." The man said with a smile. "Good luck." The man took away the case.

Seina waved it around to get the feel for it. "Yeah, I like the feel of this." And from the weapon that he swung.

Dounnnn!

An energy bullet was fired, it grazed a man in the crowd and then it made a small scorch on the wall.

"Woah. this is actually dangerous!" Laughter came from surroundings as the other men laughed.

"Sorry! I'm sorry! Are you OK?"

"Ahahahaha! Don't worry, it's okay! Don't pay attention to those stupid mushrooms. But don't shoot again before the battle starts, wait till the sound of the stone hitting the ground!" She threw a large stone lightly up to the ceiling. And the atmosphere of the woman suddenly changed.

"Eh?"

At the same time as the sound of the stone hitting the ground the woman's sword grew out like a whip and abruptly hit at Seina. But he flew backward, faster than the tip of the whip and it pierced the ground.

"Ha ha! I'm shocked. It's not often people avoid my first shot!" The woman was cranky looking, she began to let the whip blade lashes fly.

Seina ran away like a rabbit. He stopped worrying about what was behind him and started running desperately looking only in front of him.

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"Huh Wow, do you see that he is managing to dodge Yuzaki?"

Azusa groaned as if surprised a little. Now Azusa was in a large waiting room with Seto, Kanemitsu, Kiriko and Airi. By the way, Misaki was being guarded high up in Tenju so she wouldn't get excited about the battle and try to break it up.

"What do you think Kanemitsu?" Seto said as she kept watching the monitor.

"Yuzaki's sword whip is hard to dodge even for experts, it took years for me to become familiar with it."

"I remember."

"He's never even seen such a weapon and yet Seina is a natural at dodging it. It's a miracle."

"Hmmm, I get a feeling that it's a bit more than that."

"Seina is always exposed to sudden danger"

"His sense of movement is fast, I'd say he's on the same level as an expert ... but ... huh!" Azusa looked at the movement of Seina on the monitor.

"Kanemitsu, is this the first time for Yuzaki to be in that place?"

"Yes, we try not to let people in who don't have to be there."

"Hmmm well that could be a big deal."

"What do you mean, Azusa?"

"Don't you see it? Seina isn't dodging any more than he has too, and all he is doing is running away... at this rate Yuzaki is going to get tired and she can't use her surroundings to her advantage."

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"Hey, this is getting a bit ridiculous."

As expected by Seto, Yuzaki's men were also aware of her situation.

"I've never seen anyone prolong a battle with her this long"

"If Yuzaki-sama gets in any danger we should stop it."

"If she wanted to not get hurt she should have equipped a guardian." While the men were talking Seina became aware of another danger.

"Everyone run away!"

"Ah, you idiots!"

Yuzaki's whip attacked Seina as he stopped and screamed. Yuzaki's whip was coming right for them and was in an uncontrollable state.

Clang! Seina used the weapon as a shield with both hands but it deployed with maximum output. Several coincidental situations overlapped, and it stopped in the form of being wrapped around Seina's arms.

"Gah!" Seina grimaced as a burning pain shot through both arms. If even one of the coincidences hadn't happened Seina's arms would have been pulled out.

"Everyone, we're in danger. Get out of here!"

"Hey boy! Are you insane? Why are you stopping in the middle of a battle?"

"We have to leave! Please hurry and save yourself!"

"Huh? What are you saying?!" Then Yuzaki heard the noise of small birds and small animals from here and there, they all appeared from their respective hideouts and began to run away.

“Evacuate everyone! Hurry!” Yuzaki ordered. The actions of her men were quick. However, they only managed to evacuate Minaho and Ringo, and then an earthquake occurred throughout the fighting ground.

“Waaa!” Suddenly the floor collapsed, Seina fell, but the whip wrapped around his arms saved him.

“Hold on tight boy!”

“No, you won't be able to get out if you save me, please run away!”

“Yuzaki-sama!” The moment one of her subordinates tried to go up to Yuzaki as she tried to raise Seina up, the entire fragile ceiling began to collapse and Yuzaki was crushed by it.

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“Rescue troops hurry! Send the advanced resuscitation medical team!” Azusa cried.

Kiriko ran off at the same time to take action. Seto and Airi went to work giving orders, as if they knew perfectly how to divide their roles as leaders.

It was thirty minutes after Seina was rescued. It turned out that only Seina and Yuzaki were involved in the collapse, and both were confirmed to be safe. They were stuck in gap in the rubble. A Guardian System was sent into to that gap and it encapsulated them and forcefully pulled them out of the rubble to the outside. Though Microprobes the Guardian system had checked the situation of the two in advance. Seina and Yuzaki were immediately brought into a sterile capsule on the spot to perform a precision scan.

“Airi, is Seina OK?” Kiriko met with Airi as she performed the precision scan. Amane and Erma had rushed off to meet up with Minaho and Ringo, who escaped from the collapse without injury.

“Because they were in a gap created by collapsed rubble, they haven't suffered much trauma, this precision scan is just to be safe.”

“Is that so that's good”

“Airi, how is Yuzaki?” Kanemitsu asked worriedly.

“... .. Well ... Yuzaki's fine. She just has some mild bruises and abrasions.” Airi released Yuzaki, from the capsule after she finished the precision scan.

“Haha, sorry.” Yuzaki apologized to Kanemitsu with a cute pose.

“Shouldn't you apologize to your opponent first?”

“I apologized a lot when Seina and I were trapped together. Of course I'll apologize again, later ...”

“I'm glad that you're safe.”

"Thanks to that boy ... if Seina hadn't warned us, all the others would be hurt too. It was my choice to fall down with him... I guess I could have escaped alone, but"

"I understand."

"You should have seen it... his ability to avoid me was amazing."

"I saw... it was amazing I was surprised honestly. I don't think that he was even doing it consciously, even I can't do that... and he seemed to place only the required distance between him and your attack every time."

"Well... I assume it's due to his probability bias, but he is a formidable fighter."

"Yes, but its talent that has been developed by his bad luck."

"Oh, well ... hmm, I guess you're right ..."

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Kiriko was worried about Seina's scan. "Airi, how is Seina?"

"Seina is exhausted as expected, but he's suffered no dangerous damage."

Kiriko was relieved

"There are about 80 scratches on his whole body but it's just cuts and bruises. The bruises on the arm where he touched Yuzaki's whip are the most severe, but the second worst thing are scratches from the animals that got trapped inside with them."

x x x

Kiriko told Amare and Erma who were relieved, as usual.

Azusa gathered Kanemitsu and Seto in front of him. "What happened to Seina is all your fault, I expect you to apologize to him personally on behalf of Jurai."

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The Emperor of Jurai deeply bowed his head towards Seina, as did Seto, Kanemitsu, and Yuzaki as they got on their knees and apologized.

The Juraian Emperor and Seto had never before had to resort to lowering their head to someone. Kiriko and the men who were there, and the rescue workers were amazed by the sight.

"No, it's my fault really"

"It is not a permissible for us to have a man who showed such courage in bringing that package to us subjected to this 'welcome ceremony'. You are a benefactor of Jurai and should not be subjected to needless battle injuries."

"Well, I'm pretty sure this happened due to my bad luck, otherwise I wouldn't have gotten out of the collapse so unscathed."

"As the person responsible for him... as the leader of the academy, I think that there's no mistake in what Seina says." Airi was quick to say.

"I appreciate that, if that is what you say, so"

Whether this accident was caused by Seina's bad luck or by Yuzaki mattered as Seina's position was that of a Captain of the GP which belonged to the Academy, and also half to the GP military. It could have developed into a major diplomatic issue.

"I'm just glad that Misaki wasn't there."

"Indeed."

"Please indulge me Airi, I want to talk to Seina on the way to the hospital."

"Kiriko-chan, please prepare for the luncheon." Seto stopped Kiriko.

"But I have to look after Seina!" Kiriko glared Seto down.

"No you don't. Besides there's someone at the banquet who would like to talk with Seina."

"Oh, right... Tatsua please get everything taken care of." Azusa said to Tatsua.

"Oh, wait a moment!" Yuzaki began to chase after Airi who started moving Seina's capsule.

"Yuzaki, what is it?" Passing by Tatsua, she looked into Seina's capsule.

"I'm really sorry, Seina ... as a consolation, will you please take my daughter?"

"Ha ha What?" Seina said confused.

"I would like for her to be yours, please!" Everyone there was surprised.

"Your daughter? But she was just born!"

"It's ok, think about it. We will talk about it more after you eat." Yuzaki smiled.

"No, you won't..."

"I don't see how it's any of your business" Yuzaki looked at Kiriko.

"Did you leave your common sense under the rubble?" Kiriko said viciously.

"Why shouldn't he marry her when she grows up?"

"You have to be joking! You can't make that decision for her on a whim!"

"Ultimately, I'll respect her will on the matter."

"Yuzaki. You can't be serious."

"I am, Seto-sama, I would like to make a formal request."

"Wait a moment! First of all"

Yuzaki and Seto and Kiriko gathered together and began to argue. This could only end badly. Azusa sent a signal to Tatsua by hand, so that he would take Seina away quickly, and moved away to a safe area with Kanemitsu.

"... So my opinion is just going to be ignored?" Seina said, looking up at Tatsua.

"It's reckless to put yourself in the middle of that fight."

"... I guess you're right." Seina watched the girls fight as he was dragged away. He closed his eyes to sigh.

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Seina was housed in a hospital dedicated to the Royal Family, which was located in Tenju, where he was again scanned, but the diagnostic was unchanged. They had his skin healed and all signs of the injuries had disappeared.

"Seina Yamada, you have a visitor would you like me to let them in?" A nurse wearing Jurai style nurse clothes called to Seina.

"A visitor? Sure send them in." A woman came in with Tatsua.

"Seina allow me to introduce my wife, Mahma Masaki Jurai."



Tatsua took Mahma's hand and brought her to Seina.

"Nice to meet you, Seina."

*** * * Translators' note: I skipped translating a scene here with Ringo Seto and Minaho. Long story short, Yuzaki got her way. * * ***

Seina and Mahma were talking on a terrace.

"How is Sasami's life on earth? ..."

"Well I don't know much... but the Sasami I've met is a very healthy and bright girl. But she is very mature, she took care of all

Tenchi-senpai's housework till Noike came. And all the other people in her house who surround her are nice people." Seina said.

He figured if Mahma knew about Tenchi and the people of Masaki village, her concerns about Sasami would be gone, so he explained what kind of person Tenchi was through his own experiences with how the others in the Masaki family had accepted him.

“And she's always bringing Ryo-Ohki with her into the village ...”

(.....Hmm?)

Tatsua who was watching noticed his wife's expression gradually becoming calm. When Sasami left, Mahma had become excessively worried about her because she had cared for Sasami from a young age and she was still very young. Mahma mourned for her more than her parents and grandparents had when she learned that Sasami had left Jurai with Ayeka. Several times she had joined the search groups sent out to find them. She invested her own money to the point of bankruptcy, and using her own time and resources had desperately looked for Sasami's whereabouts.

(I couldn't protect Jurai, and Mahma couldn't stop Sasami's running way) Tatsua, knew the pain and feelings of Mahma. He had tried to protect Mahma from that and his own feelings of responsibility had triggered the connection between the two.

Azusa, Funaho, and Misaki supported his marriage with Mahma. Neither of them were Royalty nor nobles at the time. In marriage, Tatsua took responsibility for the invasion of Ryoko, and had received a demotion by being kicked out of the Royal Family to become a regular Masaki. Mahma was also a non-Royal Masaki, and so the marriage of the two was allowed.

The situation had settled down since then, Tatsua was allowed to return to work for the Royal Masaki family, Mahma was taken on a staff member on Misaki's Royal teaching staff, eventually she was adopted by the Kamiki family, and she was now treated as Masaki family Royalty along with Tatsua.

“Oh is that so? ... Thanks to you, I have a clear picture of her new home. Thank you so much, Seina.” Mahma looked quietly down and bowed deeply to Seina.

“I hope we get to meet again soon.”

“Yes, I do too.”

“Seina, I know you may not want to hear this, but I heard from Airi that the Kamidake is being scrapped. It's been decided that it's not salvageable.”

“It is!?”

“But you're going to have to ask Airi-sama for more details.”

“Wow.... I understand.”

“Thank you for all your help.” Tatsua bowed, Mahma also bowed and they went home.

x x x

Seina, quickly called Airi.

"Airi, is the Kamidake really being scrapped?"

"Hmm? Oh, you heard from Tatsua. Yes, it's true."

"Why? Is it really in such a bad state?"

"I know how you must feel Seina, but the Kamidake was supposed to be retired after this mission anyways. It had already been decided."

"I understand." Seina said in a slightly sad tone.

"Good."

"Chief Airi, I'd like to ask for a favor." Seina raised his face with a serious expression and stared at Airi.

x x x

Kon Kon - The sound of walking on a hard wooden floor sounded dimly in a wide darkened dock. The Kamidake's dock where Seina was standing was quiet and there was not a single person around. The ship lighted by the twilight was full of scratches and dirt, and all powered down it looked like scrap.

"Kamidake" Seina said and then he kept silent and stared at the Kamidake.

There are many things he had learned from piloting the Kamidake. They fought together, it protected him. It was the ship that helped Seina realize his dreams. The Kamidake was his first ship, even if it was the Captains job to pick it's route, it was the fighter.

As Seina wiped away the tears bleeding out, he saluted the ship. "Thank you, Kamidake."

"You're welcome." That voice sounded as if the Kamidake had said it.

"Huh! Did the Kamidake just talk?" He looked around and saw that a girl with a light green hair had come in.

She stood at the top of the research scaffolding over the Kamidake, smiling at Seina.

"And you are?"

But the girl didn't answer, she came down the stairs with light footsteps. She seemed to be the same age as Sasami, However, the girl had an atmosphere of a rich woman.



"Are you the Kamidake?" It was a strange question - but to Seina it seemed like the soul of a girl had come out of Kamidake. But the girl didn't answer. She aimed a gentle smile at Seina and approached.

"Are you the Kamidake?" When the girl came in front of Seina, he asked her again.

"That's right." It wasn't too far of a stretch to think that, she could have been the terminal unit of the AI computer unit, just like Ryo-Ohki, so Seina just accepted her words at face value.

"I'm sorry I couldn't help you, so at the very least ... I wanted to say thank you ..."

".....Don't forget me."

"Eh!?"

"If you don't forget me, I'll remain forever in your memory. I can exist there forever." The girl flew backwards as if she was weightless. "I

can exist forever in Astral Sea, and I can fly with you." The girl danced, her light green hair shook and her clothes lit lightly like fireflies.

(.....Beautiful) The girls dance shook Seina's heart fantastically, sadly and beautifully as if the Kamidake had heard his prayers.

Beep. And then to break the silence, a ringing tone sounded.

"Seina, it's about time." Airi's voice called.

The girl came closer slowly to the sad looking Seina. And looked up at Seina's face.

"....."

"Goodbye." The girl kissed him lightly on the lips and ran behind him into the darkness.

"Seina, did you hear me?"

"..... Oh, yes, yes ... I heard." Seina was distracted by Airi's voice and for a moment he removed his gaze from the girl. He stood up and turned his eyes to find the girl again, but there was no girl there. "... .. I hope to see you again soon."

It didn't matter whether it was a vision or a prank. He had a sense of satisfaction that he could properly part from the Kamidake now.

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“Oh, you seem relieved.” Airi said.

“Well... That's because I was able to say farewell properly.”

“That's good.” Airi threw something like volleyball to Seina, he reflexively grabbed it and held it in the air.

“Airi, what did you just throw that at me for! Wait.... is this NB!?” Seina had on a complicated expression as he looked at NB.

“I have deleted the dubious programs inside of it and adjusted it properly, so it shouldn't do anything weird anymore.”

“.....Really?” Seina seemed suspicious of Airi.

“Yeah, well... maybe.”

“Really?”

“Yeah..... maybe.”

“..... so.... is it?”

“Look I have to arrange for the Kamidake to be transferred, I'll be at the luncheon. Go take a break and I'll see you later.”

“Yes... I understand.” Airi, started walking in the direction Kamidake was stored in, Seina looked at NB.

“Mr. Master, I am sorry for the various troubles I have caused.”

“Well ... in that situation, there was no other choice and everyone ended up all right, so you did good.”

“I'm glad... shall we get going.”

“Yes, let's get going.”

“Roger that.” NB began to hover next to Seina as they walked.

Chapter Ten: The Lunch Show

"Oh Seina-chan, how about we get you bathed and into a change of clothes before the banquet." Tsukiko said, except it was Kuisu Panta. Seina knew this but could only see her as Tsukiko.

"No thanks... I'm fine..."

"But you need a bath."

"I can bathe all by myself..."

"I know it's embarrassing but it's my duty to bathe you. If I don't, I will be scolded. Please don't make this hard on me."

"... Uhm I can do it myself really."

"Don't be shy, we don't mind" Seina heard he looked around and saw more of Seto's hooded ladies. They took off their hoods.

"Oh no, Master, this is serious. No one is allowed to see them without their hoods, let alone naked." NB said.

"NB help!"

"I'm sorry I can't."

"Chh... I knew Airi didn't fix you yet."

"Well then everybody... get him!" Seto said as she removed her hood.

A number of officers appeared from hiding, some even dropped from the ceiling, and they came running to Seina.

"Come on Seina let's take you to the bath ~~~ ♡"

"Aaaaah~~~~~!"

The officers quickly took off Seina's clothes and began to take off their clothes too.

"Hey, what are you doing Seto!" NB asked.

"NB... you know... you can join us too."

"Ah, uhm, but ..."

"There are so many girls he won't notice... Come on, hurry up!"

"....."NB remained silent, then took Kirche's shape once Seina was far enough away to not be able to see her.

"Tsukiko-chan, Kiriko-chan is still in the big public bath right?"

“Yes, I'll go distract them so they don't get in the way.”

“Good! Now, is everyone ready?”

“Heeeeeeeelp~~~~~!”

x x x

Minaho and Ringo joined the rest of the Kamidake's crew in a large hot spring bath.

“Are you OK, Kiriko?” Amane asked, flicking hot water at her with her finger.

“I'm tired, please leave me alone for a bit.”

“Come one... don't be such an old lady... speaking of... Minaho, where is Seto...?” Amane looked around and suddenly became uneasy.

“She's making preparations for lunch Oh!”

At that time, a transfer gate opened up on the rock next to Kiriko and a naked Seina came out from there. “Catch!”

Seina fell into a bathtub and desperately clung to whatever he could which in this case was by hugging Kiriko.

“Wait.... Kiriko?”

Kiriko's warm and soft body on his bare skin resulted in him getting a boner, and who could blame him.

“Wait ... Seina! Huh! Aaaaaaaaah!”

Kiriko felt Seina's dick prod her lower body and she reflexively panicked and threw him off of her.

“Watch out!”

Hakuren's girls ended up becoming a human wall which absorbed Seina's momentum. Ringo caught him.

“Ah! Sorry” Seina apologized to Ringo for his erect state.

Fortunately Ringo didn't throw him across the room because of it. “Aaaaaaaaah!” Ringo turned red and was shedding tears.

“Ahahahaha, way to go Seina!” Seto and Kuisu Tsukiko came out of the gate knocking over Kiriko.

“Oh, is that why Kiriko is over here by herself ...”

“What are you thinking Seto-sama ... This is the women's bath!”

Then the accounting department came out of the gate one after another.

“Aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaah!!” Kiriko was trampled.

“Danger!”

Hakuren and the others turned into a wall of flesh, killing Seina's momentum. In the end, it was Ringo who caught Seina before he crashed into the rocks.



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The luncheon welcoming Seina was held in a gorgeous dining room. It was a semi standing buffet style luncheon with room for people to move and talk and places to sit in case you wanted to eat, this custom was a remnant from when Juraians were Space pirates.

The luxurious air of the luncheon was clouded by the fact that Kiriko was sitting down angrily bandaged like a mummy.

Seto picked up a glass to give a speech.

“Everyone, I really appreciate your hard work. Seina, I'd like to thank you again.”

“..... No, please don't.”

“Oh no I must, everyone please raise your glasses.”

Everyone except for Kiriko picked up their glass.

“Cheers!”

As everyone cheered, Kiriko suddenly took an entire bottle of Shinju sake popped the top off and started drinking it from the bottle.

"... .. Kiriko..... chan?"

"Oh ... don't mind her." Seto said.

Seina and Ringo were gazing at each other awkwardly, they were both bright red in embarrassment.

"So ... Ringo... why are you and Seina looking at each other like that? You didn't try anything with him back in the bath that we should know about did you?" Gyokuren teased.

Seto Interrupted her.

"Don't you want to know what was in that package you brought Seina?"

"What was inside the package? Of course I would like to know ... Why did the pirates go after us so persistently? That's not like them..."

Seto made a signal to her officers. The officers quickly moved back and a privacy wall was stretched out around them.

"This is the contents of that package!"

An image of a man who was awkward, stupid looking, and chubby was displayed in the center of the table.

"Does this person have something to do with the luggage?"

"Oh, sorry, this a match making photo for Amane. Ahahahaha, by the way, he's the same age as you Amane, and the second son of a wholesale shop owner, his mother is just wonderful."

"I don't need any dates right now ... Seto-sama, my love life is just fine as it is right now, please get back to business."

"But I have so many more..."

"Seto!"

"Fine... fine... but we're talking about this later." Seto looked disappointed and made the image vanish, then something else was projected.

"..... Seto-sama... is this also a mistake?" Kiriko said shocked.

"Is that a Royal Tree seed!?"

"Correct. A Third generation, Royal tree's seed." Seto nodded.

"But how did they get such a thing?"

"... .. Several thousand years ago, when the Shank Guild was still prospering, an incident occurred in which a Royal ship was destroyed. Since then it has been missing, it seems that only recently Tarrant discovered it. They had probably been searching for it in secret just like we have."

"No wonder they chased us!"

"This tree's master is not in this world anymore ... If they had germinated it, Tarrant or some other space pirate could have possibly become its master and succeed in making next generation seeds, thank you Seina, protecting this seed is the same as protecting a member of the Royal Family. Oh right... and I mustn't forget to thank you too, Ryoko."

"Me?"

"In fact, I have a surprise gift prepared just for you!" The privacy wall was lowered and the officers started preparations.

"Come on, Erma, please change back into Ryoko."

"What!?" Erma was confused as she was dragged off somewhere by the officers. "Wait, what's going on!?"

"Oh don't worry, it's something fun... Everyone, please keep eating."

Seina resumed eating until, soon, a privacy wall went up again, a spotlight illuminated the stage in the room and Seto got up on stage with a microphone.

"Sorry everyone, I didn't mean to keep you waiting. I hope you're ready for a fabulous show! Our guest tonight is a very special person, please give them some applause!"

The officer's cheers deafened Seina.

"Come on... get out here." Seto pulled Ryoko Balta out from back stage. She was in a fancy dress.

"Seto, why did you give me this dress?" Ryoko was puzzled she examined the symbol on the gowns neckline. "These clothes bear the symbol of the Balta family who were wiped out, I only have their last name ceremoniously. I can't accept this ..."

"Come on, Ryoko, are you ready to meet your grandfather?"

"Uhm... but I'm an orphan..."

Seto snapped her fingers. A spotlight illuminated a certain point on the stage and fanfare music played. An elderly man came up elegantly from the floor of the stage in front of Seto. The cheers of the officers continued.

"....." Ryoko was confused. The man sang and his voice was pretty good. They applauded when he finished.

"Uhm... What's going on... ..?"

“Why is the General of the Balta Guild here? He's supposed to be dead!!”

The man stuck up a peace sign and laughed. “Ha ha ha! The Balta guild is still alive and well, and you are my great-grand daughter.”

Ryoko was in a state of confusion, those words made no sense to her.

“Yeah yeah, calm down.”

Two bar code-like genetic data graphs were displayed on a screen in the air.

“This is the genetic data of Ryoko on top and this is the genetic data of Commander Balta which is registered in the official data bank of the GP.”

Two genetic data charts slid over each other and overlapped. And a part of it was expanded.

“There are many Space pirates with the Balta surname, but mostly because their ancestors were a part of the Balta guild ...”

“Th-This is.....”

“I know you understand the meaning of this data. Yes, you are a true match, meaning you are the rightful successor to the name of Balta.”

“So ... I'm not just a Balta in name!?”

“No, Ryoko-sama you are directly descended from the leader of the Balta guild.” Ryoko's adjutant emerged in a spotlight.

“What do you mean!?”

“Ryoko-sama I've known since your mother entrusted me to you. I had to raise you while lying about your identity, to protect you from Da Ruma and Tarrant.”

“If they had known you would have been killed.” Suddenly Komachi was projected next to the adjutant.

“Komachi, why are you here?”

“I agreed to this as part of a trade. Lucky for you Da Ruma hasn't noticed yet, but Tarrant seems to have known. That seems to be why he got Erma involved in assassinating Seina.”

“So I'm really the great-grand daughter of general Balta?”

“I'm afraid so.” Komachi said. She saw Seina glance at her as if he wanted to ask a question, but she knew what it was and she smiled and nodded at him.

“Seiryō is doing fine.”

Seina looked happy.

"Agh, I had finally forgotten about that jerk..." Amane said loudly.

"Yes, ... but ... but!"

"Oh, my great-granddaughter I love you. I'm so happy to be re-united!" General Balta spread his arms wide around Ryoko and hugged her while shedding tears. "Oh my, how much bigger you've gotten! Way bigger ... especially in your chest and butt!"



"Please get off of me!"

"Oh well, as your grandfather I will always remember you as that little girl."

"Then why are you stroking my butt!"

"I just want to make sure you're built well enough to bear me a successor." Everyone looked a bit embarrassed for Ryoko.

".....A successor." Ryoko looked confused, she looked at Seto to ask for help in getting away from him.

"Balta hasn't been destroyed. Currently, it exists as an autonomous state in Juraian territory ruled by General Balta, but ... as soon as it is approved at the next Galactic Federation General Assembly, it will be an its own independent monarchy."

"So then that means... Ryoko ... is a princess?"

"Well yes, but once it's approved by the

Galactic Federation, it will take time to stabilize it as a country... there are still many problems to be solved."

"So... have you found a companion to be your king yet?"

Ryoko looked at Seina.

"Hey wait a moment!" the other girls interjected.

"Surely there is no reason to hurry things now, is there General Balta." Seto interrupted.

"Well, yes that is so.... anyways for today it's just good enough that you are recognized as my heir."

"... But, honestly, I am confused I my parents died and I thought that I was all alone..."

“Well take your time to accept it... your room will be built in the Royal palace, and I'll have the Royal band practice for your welcome parade, ha ha ha.” Commander Balta slid up next to Amane and put his hands on her waist. “You know I wouldn't mind making another heir myself!”

“Get away from me or you won't ever be able to have another heir again!”

x x x

“Why do I get the feeling that you staged this so you could record it to watch later?” Kanemitsu asked Seto.

“I don't know what you're talking about... This is an official private meeting, I can't... shit... but it's too bad, this has been great. I should've recorded it.”

“Airi had me record it for her. I have everything from the beginning to end.” NB said.

“Huh, really NB? That's great!”

“I'm sorry, but I can't share it with you... I have to keep it confidential!”

Seto started chasing NB.

x x x

Chapter Eleven: Production

Later on after the luncheon, Seina was taken on a small boat to an island.

"I'm sorry, I know this is a slow way to get to where we're going, but it's the only way to get there."

"I don't mind, it's nice to take things easy for a while..."

"I wonder what our next assignment will be... The Kamidake can't be used anymore, so I wonder ..." Kiriko said uneasily. The island city they were being taken to was one that normal people weren't allowed entry to.

"You know how Ryo-Ohki recently came to Jurai on Washu's behalf right?"

"Yes, what about it?"

"What she brought with her is related to your next mission, and from what I've heard Hakuren's team will be removed from your crew."

"But were Seina's escorts!" There was something impatient in Hakuren's voice. It was due to personal feelings, not due to her sense of duty.

"There's no reason to be worried about that."

"So... then are we just going back to Seto's ship?"

"It's only for this mission. Please be patient, it should only be about three days. Afterwards, we will return you to your escort mission again."

"Fine."

x x x

When Seina arrived in the city he passed through several gates, and came in front of a huge door. Minaho seemed to be a biological key for the door. She stood on the key plate, and a Bio scan began. And after a few minutes, that huge door changed to a transfer gate.

"Please come this way."

Once they entered, there was a giant cylindrical aquarium ahead of Minaho. It was a 100 meters wide and a 300 meters tall.

"That's a Royal tree adjustment tank!" Kiriko roared.

"Oh yeah, this is the dedicated adjustment station for Royal ships."

"There's something inside of here..." Erma approached the aquarium. But the inside was dark, only something like a silhouette was visible.

“Why are we here? Is this related to our duties?”

“No need to be scared Kiriko-chan, this is a present from Jurai to Seina”

“For me?”

“No way! No, but a Royal ship requires a ritual of choosing trees first!” Kiriko said.

“That's right, but this is not a Royal ship.”

The voice of the girl came from somewhere. And Seina remembered the voice.

Kiriko looked at the source of the voice, it was the girl whom Seina had seen at the dock of Kamidake.

“Who is she?”

“She's involved in your upcoming duties.”

“That girl?” Kiriko looked her over. Her light pale green hair slowly blew in the wind but there was no wind. It looked as if faint firefly's lit up her whole body, everyone except Seina was fascinated, and became immovable as if they were tied up.

“Ehehehe.”

A thick atmosphere dominated the place, the girl descended from the stairs with light steps as if gravity had disappeared. It seemed like a painting of the advent of a God.

“It's nice to see you again.” The girl paid no mind to Kiriko and went straight to Seina.

“Are you The Kamidake?”

“No, that girl is gone, I am Neeju. Neeju Na Melmas.” She whispered after she jumped to hug Seina's chest.

“Ah!!”

As soon as that happened, Kiriko was able to move again.

“Seina, do you know this child!?” All the other girls chimed in.

(Oooo she is an enemy for his affection!) That's what all the other girls recognized right away.

“Hey, big brother Seina. You're being given something equivalent to a Royal ship ... No, it may surpass it actually, and on board is a girl who was born to meet you.”

“To meet me?”

“Ehehehe.” Neeju looked at Minaho to signal her to chime in.

“Yes ... this is your ship Seina.”

Light hit the aquarium, and the figure of a specially made ship emerged. It was a ship with four crystals plates joined together like strips around a central unit.

“Oh that plating! Is this by any chance Washu's work?” Just the other day they had seen a similar material used with Ryo-Ohki.

“Yes, this ship is a newly built ship from Professor Washu herself, this is the ship that Ryo-Ohki brought us.”

“Amazing I get what you mean now when you say its equivalent to a Royal ship.”

“This... .. is my ship? But Royal ships were some of the best ships in the Galaxy.” However a ship made by the legendary philosopher herself would be considered to be the best. He was surprised to be getting such a thing.

“There are a lot of taxes and maintenance costs for something like this, is it even possible to maintain ownership of this on my salary?”

“It's sad, but that is true.” Neeju said with a wry smile.

“I want it but” Seina zoned out. “Oh! Sorry Minaho... I just got to thinking about how my bike on earth always broke down... and now I'm suddenly the owner of a top level spacecraft, this is too much”

“Don't worry, all of that is taken care of and this ship has the ability to self-repair anywhere. The only necessary maintenance needed will be for some auxiliary parts that you won't need to replace till much later, Ms. Washu made this to fit you perfectly by collecting data on you so don't worry.”

“Oh”

“Also, this ship is considered a part of your reward for capturing pirates... But in reality Tenchi was worried when he heard you were in space so he asked Washu to make it for you. But I imagine she has other reasons. The data you provide must be worth a fortune.”

“Oh... really?”

“Everyone wants to see you Captain this ship so you can be safe... Including Seto-sama... You can refuse if you don't like the idea of being a guinea pig ... but... well.”

“Refuse No, please accept it! This child has already accepted you as its master before she has even been born big brother Seina!”

“... Oh... Ok... I understand.” Seina nodded to Neeju. “Thank you. Thank you so much for this ship.”

“Good, well then... give please this ship a codename, we have to name it.”

“... .. The name has already been decided.” Seina looked up at the ship, “Kamidake. This girl's name is Kamidake!”

As if to respond to his voice the Kamidake's crystal shone and it began to wake as if a soul had entered it. Like a baby trying to get out of her mother's womb, the water around the ship reacted to the crystal's energy and started to foam.

“Well then... Let's go into space, this girl wants to fly!”

Afterword: Concluding Theater Part 4

“... .. Sorry to be a bother ... Thank you.” Tsukiko, who had just learned that Kuisu Panta turned herself into her image and told Seina her feelings, was shocked, she placed the phone handset down.

[illegible]

“No way, there's definitely no way! Kuisu couldn't possibly know such a thing! There must be something that I don't know going on here!” Tsukiko could not sit still. She got up and began pacing, while holding her body with both arms.

“No way! There's no way! How would she have known? How did she know?” When she learned what happened to Seina and the Kamidake, Tsukiko thought of going to say the same things as what Kuisu told Seina.

She talked about it to Kiriko before, if Seina came back to earth, she was going to tell him... she wanted to have a heart to heart with Seina.

(But ...) Tsukiko's face turned bright red with embarrassment. From this incident, she realized her feelings for Seina had grown unnoticed. She no longer thought of him as a boy, but as a man.

It seemed that those around Seina had also realized this shortly after he became Captain but for her, her interaction with him had been limited since that had happened.

“... No, I shouldn't think of such a thing!” Even though Tsukiko admitted to herself that she saw Seina as a man, he was still too young to have relations with. It was still too early for her to tell him her feelings, and for Tsukiko who was accustomed to the sense of the age on the Earth, it was embarrassing and it wasn't something that she could do without it seeming weird... She was over 40 and had a crush on a boy she had raised since he was a child. Naturally, she had meant to keep her feelings in her heart until Seina had reached a certain age.

(Kuisu-samaaaaaaaaaaaaaa!)

In this case it was like Kuisu had handed out a love letter to Seina that she had not intended for delivery.

“StupidStupidStupid StupidStupidStupid StupidStupidStupidStupid StupidStupidStupidStupid
StupidStupidStupidStupidStupid StupidStupidStupidStupid Oh ~~~~~!!” Again Tsukiko buried
her face in the cushions in shameful embarrassment and stared at the floor until...

"Is everything okay, Mom?" Kai's voice came from right beside her.

“Kyaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaah! Kai what are you doing here!”

“Are you stressed? Or just frustrated, you should remarry father...”

“Uuuuuuuuuuuuhg! This is no time to make me angry with your dumb jokes, Kai!”

“But I'm hungry... have you made dinner yet?”

Tsukiko took off her shoe and threw it at Kai. It missed his head but hit him in the ass. Tsukiko's blood boiled.

“Here, go buy some snacks or something!” Tsukiko pelted Kai with a few hundred yen coins and he ran off. Tsukiko was staring at Kai running away like a scared rabbit, when she suddenly realized that Sasami was standing right next to her.

“That kid sure is tough ~~~!”

“Sas.... Sasami-chan!”

“Kai-Onii-chan is as weird as usual I see.” Sasami laughed and smiled as she placed a large basket containing vegetables and fruits down on a table. “Oh, here's your shoe... these are a souvenir from Ryo's trip to Jurai.”

“Oh, thank you. I hope it wasn't too much trouble for you to bring it here.” Tsukiko fixed up her clothes and hair and smiled at Sasami.

“Ryo-chan had a good time seeing Seina ... didn't you Ryo-chan.”

“... .. Miya” Ryo had been scared by Tsukiko and was hiding behind Sasami's leg in cabbit form.

“Oh did you? Thank you for helping Seina out Ryo-chan.” Tsukiko caressed Ryo's head with a smile, Ryo-Ohki finally calmed down and climbed back up to ride on Sasami's head.

“Hey Aunt Tsukiko, I'm also rooting for you.”

“.....What!?” Tsukiko stared at Sasami's face as she smiled at her.

“I want big sister Kiriko to try hard, but also Aunt Tsukiko to win as well.”

(How does she know about that??) Tsukiko noticed that Sasami knew what happened in Jurai as well.

“..... Sasami-chan how long have you been here?” Tsukiko asked fearfully.

“Since Aunt Tsukiko got that call ♡” Sasami answered with a big smile.

The end